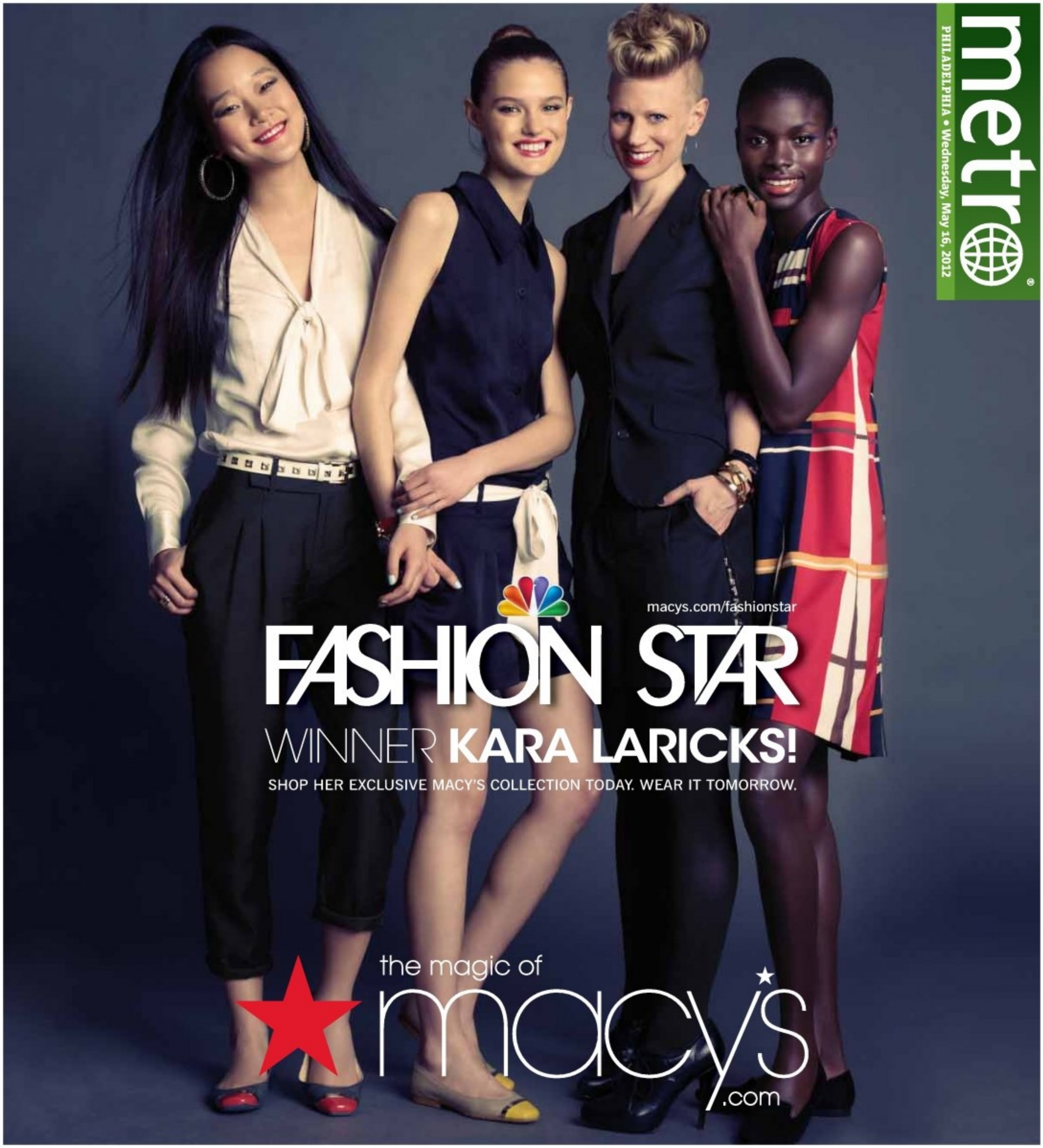
metro
PHILADELPHIA • Wednesday, May 16, 2012



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★ WebID 665424.
Lauren printed knit dress. $79.
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ALL YOUR LAUGHS BELONG TO ME NOW {page 16}

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PHILADELPHIA
Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Deep scars from real life 'Falling Down'

West Philly man allegedly caught on video going nuts on doughnut shop worker surrendered yesterday ◗ Cambodian immigrant badly burned by tossed coffee {page 02}

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Sulia Luy, 27, showed her serious burns to Metro yesterday. Her boss at Fresh Donuts said she remains scarred emotionally.

NBA playoffs

Sixers gaining confidence in 'ugly' series

◗ Hometown ballers finally closing out games ◗ Return home tonight with chance to grab series lead {page 25}

Francisco Costa talks fashion

Designer on how his new line for Macy's works in the day and the night {page 21}

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‘Unstable upstairs’

Neighbor of man who allegedly went nuts in West Philly coffee shop say he simply lost it ◗ Coffee worker still shaken by shop attack

Sulia Luy, 27, a native of Cambodia, has only been in the country for 10 months, Fresh Donuts Inc. owner Donald Eap said at his store in West Philadelphia yesterday. He brought Luy, his wife’s cousin, from York to work with him part time so he could teach her how to run a business.

But she received a horrifying lesson in customer service last week when an angry customer hurled a cup of scalding coffee on her following an argument over payment for a $2.40 food order. Luy, who does not speak English, peeled back bandages to reveal an open wound at work yesterday. The skin was sloughed off her arm due to second-degree burns sustained while shielding her face from the blistering liquid. She was trying to soothe the wound with an aloe leaf wrapped in bandages.

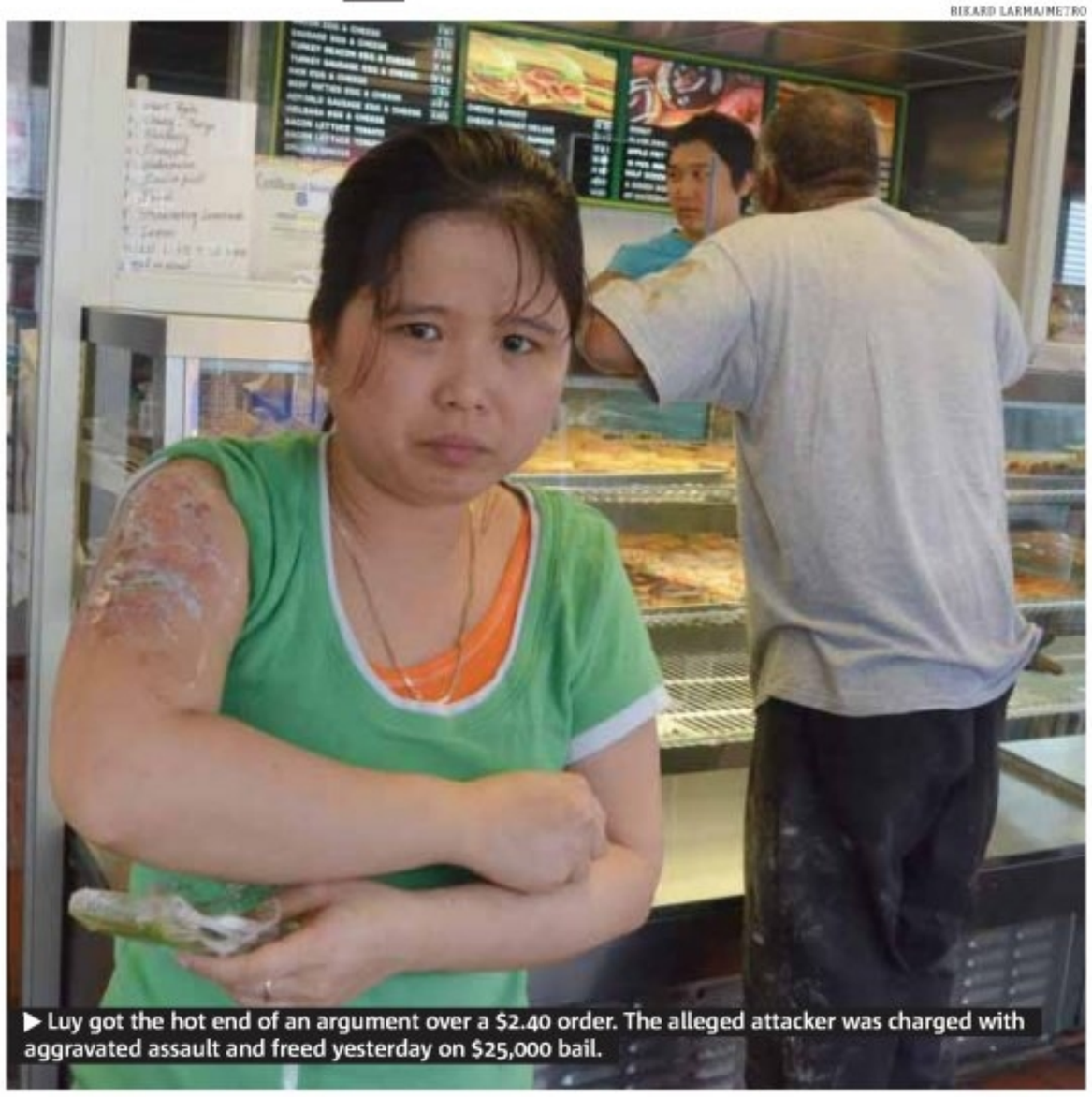
After police released surveillance video of the incident last Thursday, phone lines were flooded with tips identifying the alleged suspect as David Timbers, 52, who lives in an apartment on Haverford Avenue, a few blocks from the store. Timbers turned himself in Monday evening and was released yesterday.

“He was a regular customer and he never acted like that,” Eap said. He said that he tried to intervene, but was outnumbered allegedly by Timbers, his companion, and at least one other man who joined the argument. “I tell them ‘stop,’ but they not gonna respect me,” he said.

“We’ve been here over 20 years, and nothing like this ever happened,” Eap continued. “From 1991 to now, it never happened. They are good people around here, there is never any trouble. Then last week — I don’t know what happened.”

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

RIKARD LARMA/METRO



▶ Luy got the hot end of an argument over a $2.40 order. The alleged attacker was charged with aggravated assault and freed yesterday on $25,000 bail.

Neighbors shocked by coffee toss

PHILADELPHIA. Neighbors reactions to the shocking incident, which has made national headlines, were mixed.

“I don’t care what she did, she didn’t deserve to get hot coffee thrown on her,” said C. Burton, who, like Timbers, is a routine patron. He said that he was familiar with Timbers from the neighborhood, but the man mostly kept to himself. “He’s a little unstable upstairs.”

Timbers didn’t answer the door at his apartment, but neighbors said he lived with his wife and two children. A man who asked only to be identified by his first name, Mark, said he became involved in the altercation. “He took out a $10 bill and gave it to her, and she gave him $7.40 back. ... She kept telling him he didn’t pay, but I saw him. I was standing right there.”

He said Eap tried to block Timber and his companion from leaving by standing in front of their car.

“That was wrong,” he said of the coffee-tossing. “But they have a tendency of coming off real smart at the mouth and they pissed him off — he flipped. ... The only thing he was wrong about was throwing coffee on her. Other than that, he was not wrong at all.” METRO

Quoted

“It was just a cup of coffee — he’s not a bad guy.” HARRY K. MOORE

“She didn’t deserve to get [burned].” BURTON

Fourth DUI for NJ man

NEW JERSEY. A Vineland man was arrested for DUI Saturday for the fourth time in a little over a month, The Daily Journal reported.

Anderson Sotomayor, 45, was taken into custody around 1:40 a.m. after police saw him drive against traffic down a one-way street, strike a curb and slam into a property.

He refused to take a breathalyzer and was arrested for DUI. Sotomayor was charged with the same crime in the same town on April 9, 11 and 25.

He was also issued five summonses April 2 for allegedly swerving around a school bus as children were exiting, running a stop sign, hitting a car — hospitalizing its driver — and fleeing, according to the paper. Police were able to track him down in that case after finding half of his handicapped tag at the scene. METRO/AW

▶ Infected and dangerous

Racoon in hiker attack tested positive for rabies

WISSAHICKON VALLEY. A raccoon that attacked a hiker in a bathroom near the Valley Green Inn on Thursday has tested positive for rabies, according to an e-mail sent by nonprofit group Friends of the Wissahickon.

The Philadelphia Public Health Department issued a warning to anyone who came into contact with a raccoon in late April or early May to immediately seek medical attention, as the disease is almost always fatal to humans if preventive measures are not promptly taken.

The victim is currently undergoing treatment so that he doesn’t catch the infection. The attack is the 61st rabies incident since 1989, per the Health Department. METRO

In the news

Gun battle with an SUV

An unknown gunman fired five rounds into a parked Trenton, N.J., police sports utility vehicle late Monday night, authorities said yesterday. Neither of the two officers sitting inside the vehicle were injured, and police have no idea what the motive behind the shooting was. METRO

In the news

Not high enough

Pennsylvania’s income tax collections were up 8.3 percent last month to $1.7 billion, yet were also $26.4 million below forecast, according to the state’s revenue department in an analysis by Reuters. The underwhelming gain likely springs from some states counting on last year’s burst of collections continuing into this year, an analyst said.

Protests. Pa. budget

▶ Protesters from multiple organizations rolled out a "human carpet" for Gov. Tom Corbett's address to the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce at the Prince Theater in Center City.

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

Roll out 'human carpet' for Gov. Corbett

"This is to demonstrate the broken priorities of Corbett's budget," said Emily Abendroth of Decarcerate PA. His proposal contains cuts to public education and social services, protesters warned, while funding the construction of three new state prisons and the expansion of nine others. "We're trying to demonstrate how money is being spent and what it's being taken away from."

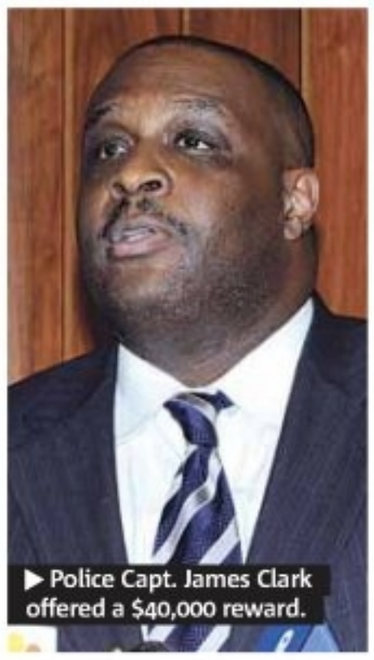
Double murder victim was pregnant, cops say

Police announced a $40,000 reward for the gunman who shot a young couple in Olney Monday night.

Rodney Ramseur and Latia Jones, both 21, were sitting on the porch of Ramseur's home on the 200 block of West Sparks Street when, shortly before 8:30 p.m., a gunman wearing a gray hoodie opened fire at point blank range, police said.

Both victims were shot multiple times. Officers found Ramseur, who managed to run a short distance, on the street. He was pronounced dead on the scene. Jones, of the 6100 block of North Fourth Street — less than a quarter mile away from Ramseur's home — was slumped over on the porch. She was rushed to Albert Einstein Medical Center, where she died around 9:40 p.m.

The two had recently begun dating. Police said they received unofficial reports that Ramseur's sister, who is eight months pregnant, witnessed the shooting and was hospitalized with labor pains. She has since been released.



▶ Police Capt. James Clark offered a $40,000 reward.

Jones may also have been pregnant with her second child, according to some posters on social media feeds. "Last night I lost a very good friend of mine. She was only 21 years old. Shot in the head point blank range," tweeted successful Philadelphia-born producer Andrew "Pop" Wansel. "She leaves behind a ton of friends, family, a son and apparently was expecting again. Philly has to do better. Rest well Latia Jones."

Police are investigating multiple motives. They said Ramseur, who appears to be the target of the shooting, had recently given testimony in a years-old homicide case. Court documents show that he has a fairly long rap sheet and, according to his Facebook page, he was also shot this past January.

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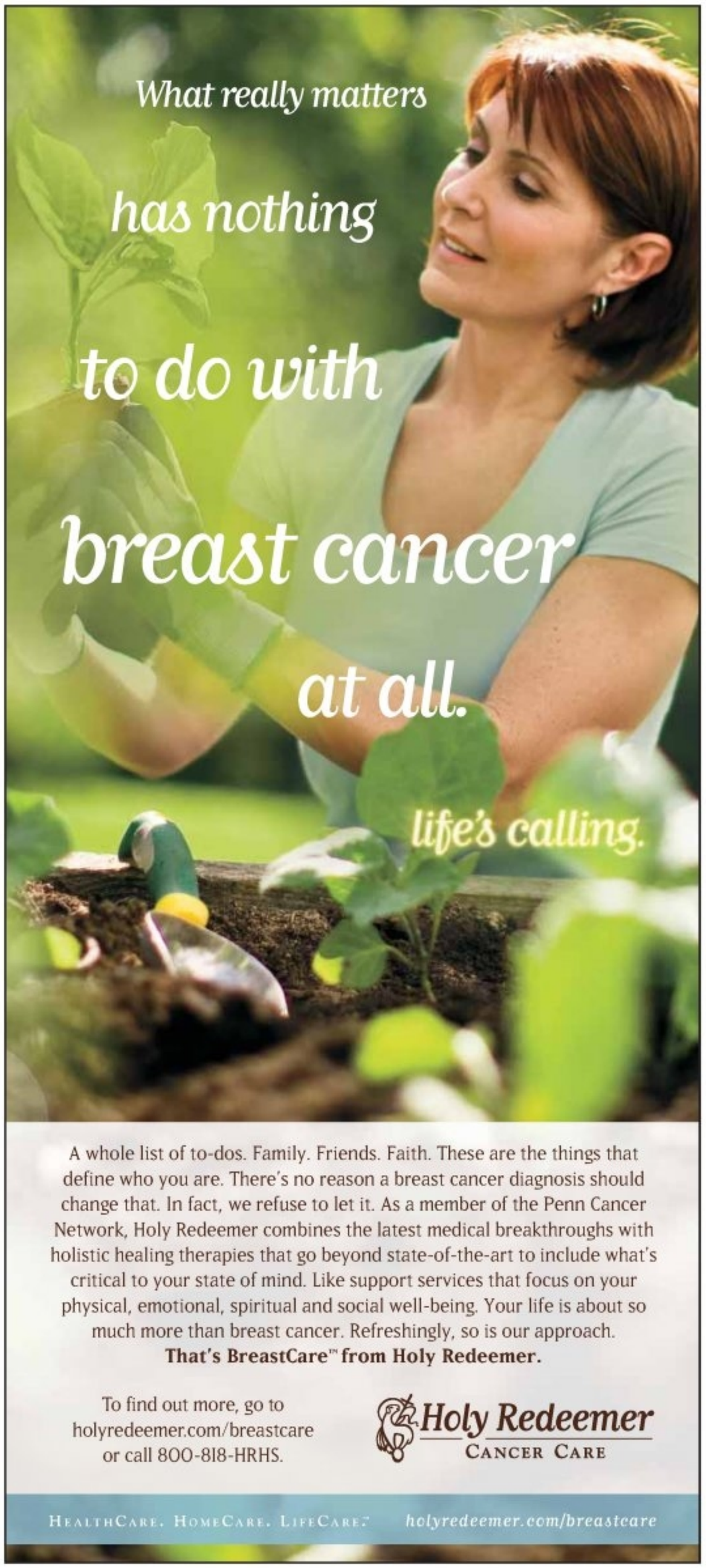

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Change our name? Rutgers says no way

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

▶ The name means a lot to people in many parts of New Jersey.

A preliminary compromise was announced Monday as an alternative to Gov. Chris Christie's proposed merger of Rutgers-Camden and Rowan University. The alternative plan proposes a combined institution, run by an independent board, that would retain some form of the Rutgers name at a Camden campus.

The compromise plan is the work of a behind-the-scenes group that includes New Jersey Senate President Stephen Sweeney, state Sen. Donald Norcross and Newark Mayor Cory Booker, plus Rutgers President Richard McCormick and Rutgers-Camden Chancellor Wendell Pritchett.

Senator Norcross' brother George is a powerful South Jersey politician who has been actively promoting Christie's plan. George Norcross is chairman of the board of Camden's Cooper University Hospital. The hospital will be home to Rowan's new medical school.

"The framework ... would give Rutgers-Camden administrative and budgetary autonomy, while maintaining our academic connections to Rutgers University."
WENDELL PRITCHETT, CHANCELLOR OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY-CAMDEN

Norcross and Christie were in Camden yesterday for the groundbreaking of a new cancer institute at Cooper.

Rowan representatives have not been involved in the compromise talks, according to Joe Cardona, associate vice president of university relations. Cardona hopes that some form of merger or collaboration will happen, whether under Christie's plan or some other plan.

Rutgers-Camden students, faculty and administration have very publicly opposed the loss of the Rutgers name, and on May 3 the board of Rutgers University overwhelmingly voted to reject the merger.

JUDY WEIGHTMAN
letters@metro.us

Study: Pa. fracking safer

PENNSYLVANIA. Natural-gas drillers of the state's Marcellus Shale reduced the rate of blowouts, spills and contamination by half since 2008, a study based on state-agency actions reported.

State regulators issued environmental violations at 27 percent of the wells drilled in the first eight months of 2011, 54 percent below the full-year rate in 2008, according to the study today from New York's University at Buffalo's Shale Resources and Society Institute, which opened last month. Stronger regulations, tougher enforcement and improved industry practices helped trim the violations, researchers found.

54% State environmental violations at Pennsylvania wells for the first three quarters of 2011 were down 54 percent from the full-year rate of 2008.

Advances in hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, have opened vast oil and gas deposits from North Dakota to West Virginia. **BLOOMBERG**

No bankruptcy for Harrisburg

PENNSYLVANIA. Harrisburg's city council members can't challenge the dismissal of the city's bankruptcy, an appeals court ruled yesterday.

The U.S. Court of Appeals in Philadelphia granted a request by Harrisburg's mayor and the County of Dauphin to block the councilors attempt to appeal. The mayor, the county and the state of Pennsylvania opposed the bankruptcy when it was filed by a majority of the council in October. A federal bankruptcy judge dismissed the bankruptcy on Nov. 23, saying it wasn't authorized by state law. **BLOOMBERG**

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NBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 1966-67 Philadelphia 76ers
NBA EASTERN DIVISION CHAMPIONS 1966-67 Philadelphia 76ers
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JPMorgan losses prompt FBI probe

The FBI has opened a probe into trading losses at JPMorgan Chase & Co., stepping up the pressure on the bank after the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the Federal Reserve said they were also looking into the wrong-way bets that led to the losses.

Yet at the same time, shareholders backed embattled Chief Executive Jamie Dimon at the bank's annual shareholders meeting in Tampa, Fla., yesterday, voting against a proposal to split the jobs of CEO and chairman.

Though shareholders mostly gave Dimon a pass, pressure mounted on the bank to reclaim some of the millions of dollars it paid to the executives who oversaw the trades. Dimon said JPMorgan would pursue more disciplinary action against those who were responsible.

"We will do the right thing. That may well include clawbacks," he told reporters after the annual meeting. REUTERS

JEMAL COUNTESS/GETTY IMAGES

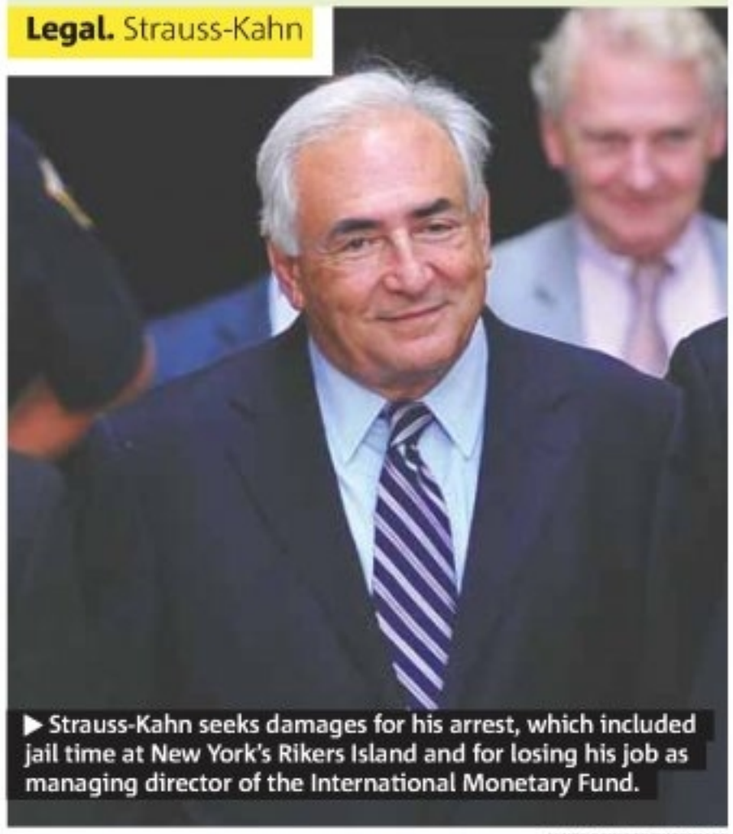
▶ Dimon

"We will do the right thing. That may well include clawbacks."
CHIEF EXECUTIVE JAMIE DIMON

Romney on trade

U.S. Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney's campaign said yesterday JPMorgan Chase & Co.'s huge trading losses were an unfortunate part of a free market economy. Romney adviser Eric Fehrnstrom told NBC that, while Romney supports some financial regulation, the losses at one of the nation's largest banks involved investors, not taxpayers, and that rules for Wall Street shouldn't hamper investments. Wall Street reform has become a top campaign issue for the Democratic president and his presumptive Republican rival leading up to the Nov. 6 presidential election.

Legal. Strauss-Kahn



▶ Strauss-Kahn seeks damages for his arrest, which included jail time at New York's Rikers Island and for losing his job as managing director of the International Monetary Fund.

JAMES DEVANEY/WIREIMAGE

Strauss-Kahn countersues maid

Former IMF chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn has filed a $1 million countersuit against the hotel maid who accused him of sexual assault, costing him his job and any chance of being elected president of France. The countersuit was filed Monday on the anniversary of the incident. REUTERS

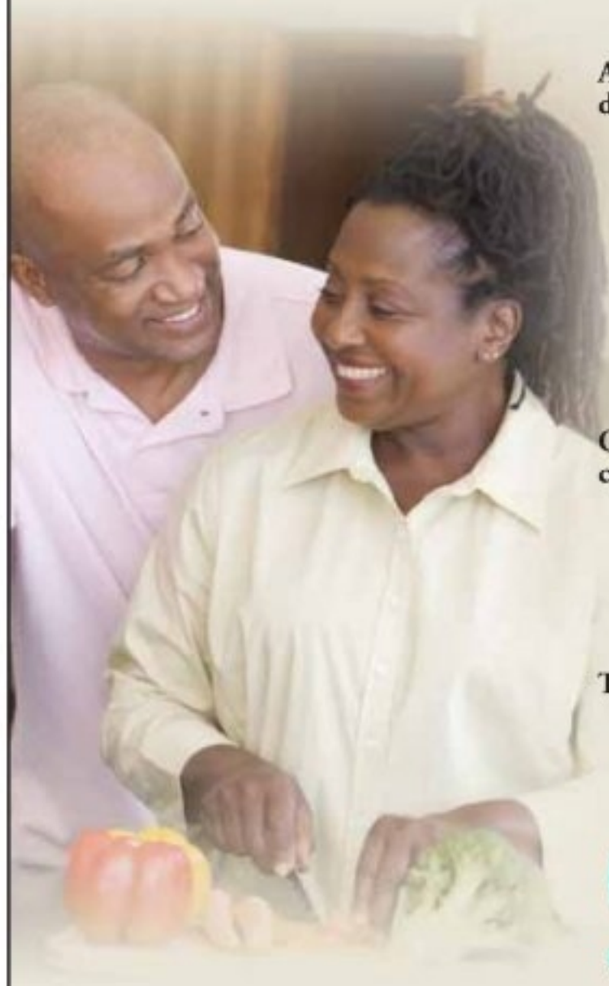
Rattlesnake bites man at Wal-Mart

SALMON, IDAHO. When Mica Craig reached down to brush what he thought was a stick off some mulch in the garden section of a Washington state Wal-Mart, it turned around and sank its fangs into his hand.

The Friday encounter with a rattlesnake sent Craig, 47, to the hospital, where he said he remained in excruciating pain and may lose feeling in two fingers. Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has apologized.

"I reached down to grab the stick to move it out of the way, and the snake stretched out, turned around and got its fangs in my right hand," he said. "I slung it off and I did a tap dance on it until it was dead." REUTERS

Work through Cancer...



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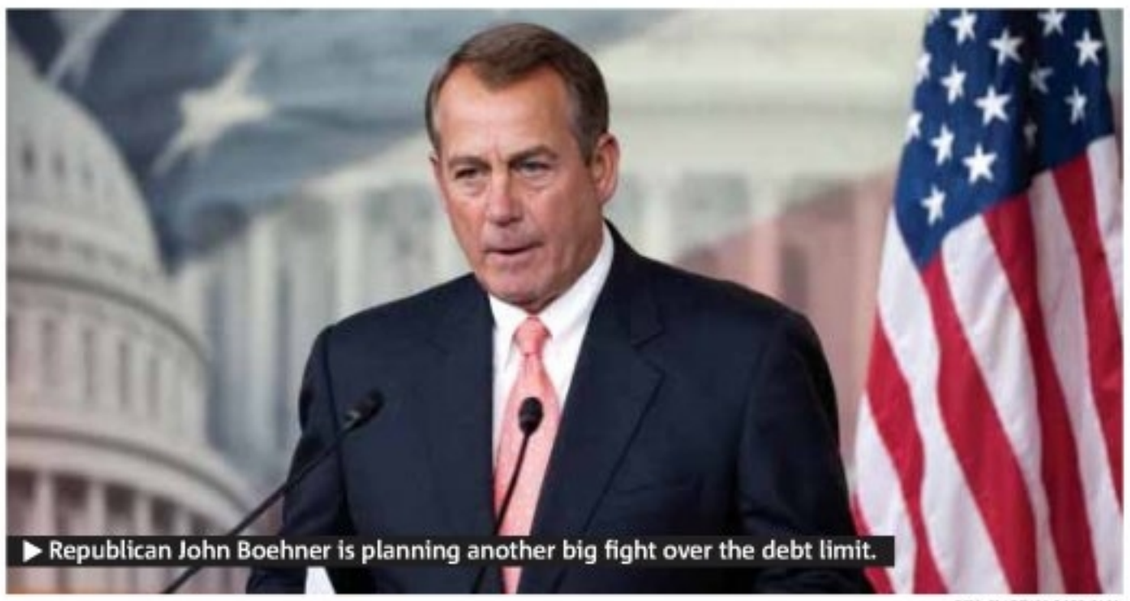
Deficit distortions at heart of GOP agenda



▶ Republican John Boehner is planning another big fight over the debt limit.

BILL CLARK/CQ ROLL CALL

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BRAYDEN SIMMS

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The Republican party remains unchastened for its political intransigence these past four years, and why would it be any other way? After two years of just-say-no rule in Washington following the election of President Barack Obama — 24 months of rancorous opposition, in which nearly every Democrat proposal was spurned, even those causes originally championed by the right — voters rewarded Republicans with landslide elections in 2010, tilting the balance of power more in their favor. Since then, they've continued that vehement obstruction, hoping for similar electoral dividends come November.

Last year, the GOP's unyielding arrogance came back to bite us all in the form of a lowered national credit rating: Standard & Poor's dropped the indicator of confidence in U.S. financial security over what it called "political brinkmanship" related to the lack of a debt deal — a political failure to compromise stemming, numerous reports have revealed, from the Republican party's strict adherence to a no-tax orthodoxy.

Now, House Speaker John Boehner has promised a repeat of that bruising battle. Boehner, speaking at a fiscal summit yesterday, affirmed his plan to once again play hard-to-get over the previously routine bipartisan procedure of raising the debt ceiling. "I will again insist on my simple principle of cuts and reforms greater than the debt limit increase," he said.

It sounds good on its face, but Boehner's talk of "cuts and reforms" is a ruse. In 2011, Obama agreed to more cuts than many in his coalition had bargained for, but Boehner toed the line on the Grover Norquist no-tax pledge and bailed. No compromise, no deal. Meanwhile, the bipartisan framework created to try and force that deal — the so-called supercommittee, which implemented automatic cuts disliked by both parties in the absence of agreement — proved itself without substance last week when congressional Republicans moved to squeeze their way out of their half of the bad bargain, voting to cut social programs as a means of preventing reductions in military funding.

Republicans distort facts to destroy the Obama presidency, by any means necessary. They have effectively marshaled the deficit boogeyman to scare half the country into distrusting the executive — even though most of our current debt burden can be directly traced back to President George W. Bush. (A fact we'll be skewered for repeating, no doubt, but a fact nonetheless.) What's more: The Paul Ryan budget proposal, a Republican rallying point, actually does a worse job of reducing the deficit than Obama's plan.

So here we are again. United in their opposition to President Obama and verifiable economic data, Republicans hold the nation's purse strings hostage. Break out the champagne, we've got some rewarding to do!

GET FED

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- "How to Act Human: Advice for Mitt Romney From Inside the Actors Studio" **NYMAG.COM**
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- "Virginia House Rejects Judge Because He Is Gay" **THINK PROGRESS**
- "Black Folks Not Quite Ready To Vote GOP Over Marriage Equality" **MOJO**
- "JP Morgan May Screw Up, But Obama Still Admires Jamie Dimon" **THE ATLANTIC WIRE**
- "Americans Elect without a nominee" **POLITICO.COM**
- "Romney donor pulls support, backs Obama, over same-sex marriage" **CNN**
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News in brief

PAUL ARCHULETA/FILMMAGIC/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Michaels

Bret Michaels settles lawsuit over brain injury

NEW YORK. Rock singer Bret Michaels has settled a lawsuit he filed against the Tony Awards and CBS for damages to his head after a stage set piece knocked him down and he claimed it contributed to a brain hemorrhage he later suffered.

The terms of the settlement were not released. Michaels sued CBS and Tony Awards Productions after he performed in 2009 with his band Poison during the awards telecast of Broadway's best shows, claiming producers failed to tell him how to exit the stage safely. **REUTERS**

Judge rules against Coleman's widow

SALT LAKE CITY. Former child star Gary Coleman's ex-wife failed to prove she had lived with him as a common law spouse even after their divorce, a Utah judge has ruled, in a move that could strip her of rights to the "Diff'rent Strokes" actor's estate.

Coleman, died two years ago at age 42 after suffering a brain hemorrhage in an accidental fall at his Utah home.

He died after being taken off of life support — a decision made by his former wife, Shannon Price. **REUTERS**

Americans have no idea how credit scores are calculated

A new report out from the Consumer Federation of America leaves a big impression about the U.S. consumer, and it's not a pleasant one.

Americans, it seems, just don't know much about their credit scores — specifically, how they're calculated and what impacts them the most.

That's not good news for tens of millions of Americans mired in debt. Bad credit can lead to more debt, as banks and lenders tack on extra fees and higher interest rates to extend credit to riskier consumers — in other words, those with lower credit ratings.

In a new study released this week by the CFA (the second annual Survey of Consumer Knowledge About Credit Scores), year-to-year consumer understanding of credit scores are up slightly, but that's the only piece of encouraging news from the report.

THINKSTOCK IMAGES

▶ Consumers may find their lack of credit knowledge will end up hurting them where it hurts most — in the bank account.

Consumers did show positive signs on credit knowledge in some areas, especially which service providers actually provided credit scores; the fact that consumers have more than one credit score; and how to raise their credit score. All were up moderately according to the survey.

CFA calls that knowledge gap a "serious misunderstanding" on the part of American consumers. **MAINSTREET.COM**

Debt burden

To get an idea how deeply consumers are mired in debt take a look at these numbers:

- Total U.S. revolving debt (98 percent of which is credit card debt): $801 billion, as of December 2011, according to the Federal Reserve.
- Total U.S. consumer debt: $25 trillion, according to the Fed.
- U.S. credit card 30-day delinquency rate in January 2012: 2.93 percent.

29% Number of people knew that, on a $20,000 auto loan, borrowers with low credit would pay $5,000 or more than a consumer with high credit over the life of the auto loan.

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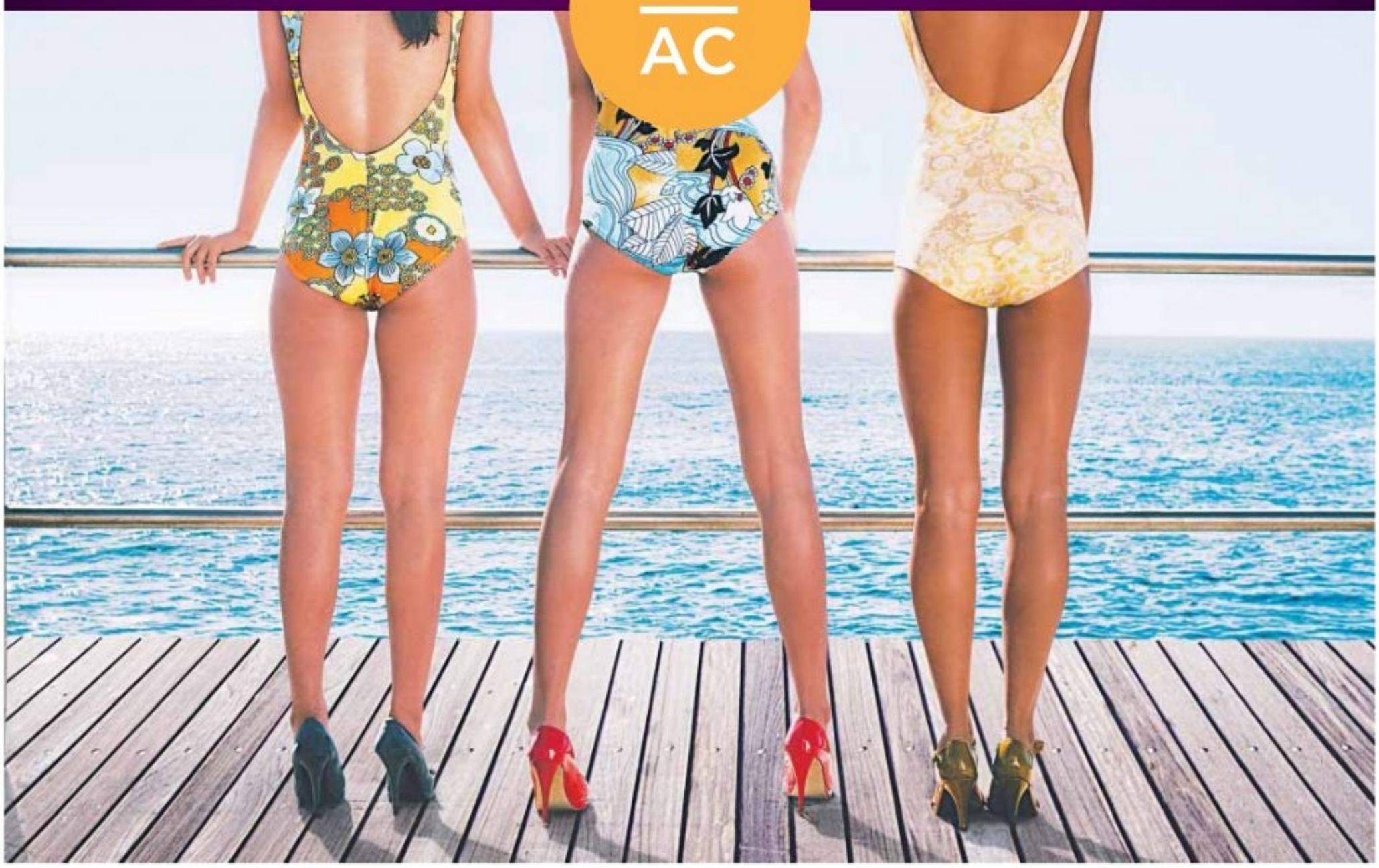

Brain surgeon live tweets tumor removal

Neurosurgeon operated on Gabrielle Giffords last year Stream had 14 million viewers worldwide

There have been live births broadcast on the Internet, and a number of operations. Now the Memorial Hermann hospital in Houston has gone a step further and provided the first ever live-tweeted brain surgery.

The surgery was performed by Dr. Dong Kim, a leading neurosurgeon who operated on Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords after she was shot in the head in January last year. On Wednesday, Dr. Kim removed a benign tumor from a 21-year-old woman, who had consented to the broadcast.

The surgeon was joined by a social media team, which tracked and broadcast every stage from an adjacent room. The hospital received an "overwhelming response", hospital spokeswoman Nicole Terry told Metro, which included a total of 14 million viewers worldwide and more than 10,000 interacting with the stream.

"The main idea is education," Terry told Metro. "We hoped it would help college students to see and learn, and equally for patients who may need brain surgery, to show them what it's like."

Memorial Hermann had already broadcast open-heart surgery in February, and hopes to make more available online. Social media expert Alasdair Blackwell told Metro the practice should be celebrated: "This is what the Internet does best, throwing information open for all to see. It's natural that all our most intimate moments be shared online now."

KIERON MONKS
METRO WORLD NEWS

ISTOCKPHOTO

▶ Ever want to follow brain surgery in real time? Now you can.

Surgery in tweets

houstonhospital @TheBippi Operation time is from skin incision to skin stitching. In this case it was just under 2 hours. - Dr. Kim #MHbrain 11 minutes ago

houstonhospital @briabria The tumor was benign. - Dr. Kim 13 minutes ago

houstonhospital @maller Stitches in the dura, a membrane normally stuck to the surface of the skull, keep the membrane tight, preventing hematoma. - Dr. Kim 16 minutes ago

houstonhospital @antmont96 When there's a hemorrhage, the blood clot is partially absorbed. Yellow protein remains & stains the brain yellow. - Dr. Kim 21 minutes ago

WRITE TO METRO:
LETTERS@METRO.US

Alzheimer's research push

CHICAGO. The U.S. government launched a national plan to address Alzheimer's disease yesterday with funding for a first prevention study in high-risk patients and tests on an insulin nasal spray that has shown promise in earlier studies.

The trials, funded by grants of $16 million and $7.9 million respectively, are initial steps in the National Alzheimer's Plan, a sweeping effort to find an effective way to prevent or treat Alzheimer's by 2025 and improve the care of those already afflicted with the brain-wasting disease.

"This is our roadmap that will help us meet our goal to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's disease by 2025," Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius told scientists at an Alzheimer's summit. **REUTERS**

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Student loan debt collectors are making a mint

Joshua Mandelman made $454,000 in a single year as a student-loan debt collector — more than twice the pay of the U.S. secretary of education.

His boss, Richard Boyle, chief executive officer of Educational Credit Management Corp., received $1.1 million in 2010, including commuting expenses from his ranch in New Mexico. Five other managers each took home more than $400,000.

ECMC, a Minnesota nonprofit group, owes its success to an 18-year-old agreement with the U.S. government. The company charges fees to borrowers and earns commissions from taxpayers — totaling as much as 31 percent — when it collects on defaulted student loans. Those rich rewards, which are approved by Congress, are sparking criticism that ECMC and similar collection agencies are reaping a bonanza from former students' pain.

The loan program "is enriching collection agencies and undermining a goal we all want for society — to encourage people to go to college," Robert Shireman, a former deputy undersecretary of education under President Barack Obama, said in a telephone interview.

ECMC is one of 32 little-known "guaranty agencies" that play a key role in the world of higher-education finance. They oversee student loans for the U.S. Education Department, which began its lending program in 1965. The groups guarantee loans made by banks and other private lenders. They promise to repay the lenders if borrowers don't. If the agencies can't recover the money, the federal government takes over the loan, shifting the risk to taxpayers. BLOOMBERG

Good news?

ECMC says it helps keep federal financial-aid programs solvent by recovering taxpayer money. Since its founding in 1994, the company has returned **$4.3 billion** to the U.S. Treasury, said Dave Hawn, ECMC's chief operating officer.

Groupon shares jump on strong growth

Groupon Inc. shares jumped as much as 27 percent in early trading after the daily deals company posted its first-ever quarterly profit, allaying fears of slowing growth.

The company said on Monday that North America revenue rose 33 percent for the first quarter — its strongest growth in a year. Investors have been concerned that growth was slowing in the relatively more mature North American business.

"While billings, revenue, margins, and guidance all met or exceeded, signs of accelerated ... revenue shows that the company's technology efforts around personalization and, to a lesser extent, mobile and rewards, are paying off," wrote Evercore Partners analyst Ken Sena.

41.3%

Groupon's take rate, which measures how much of the money it keeps after sharing cash with merchants running its deals.

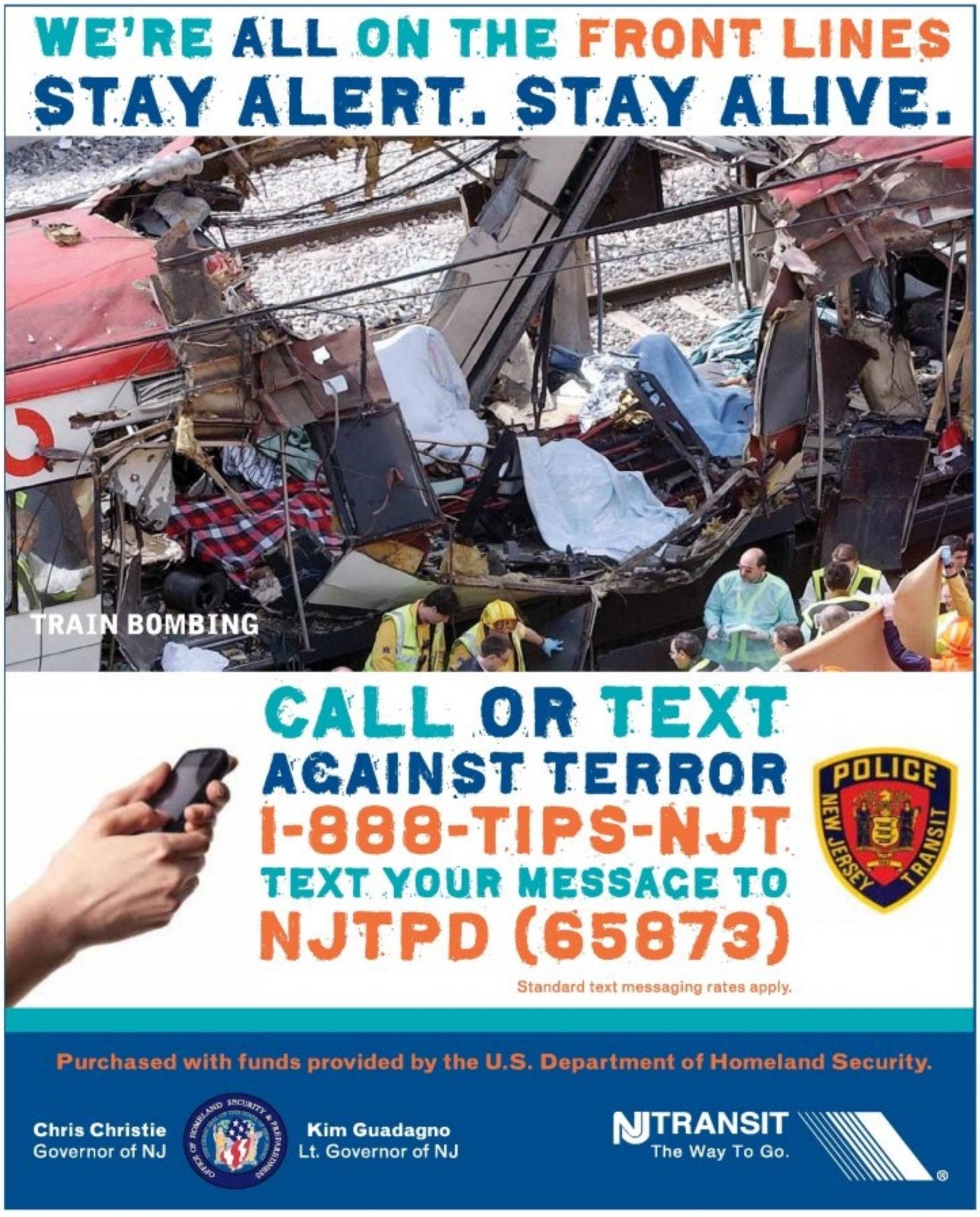
Sena raised his price target on the stock to $17 from $15 and kept a "buy" rating. REUTERS

Facebook. Diversity

▶ Facebook is looking to add a female to the board.

GETTY IMAGES

Facebook Inc. is seeking to add directors, including at least one woman, who can add diversity to its all-male board, sources said. Facebook has been working with executive-recruiting firm Spencer Stuart to identify prospective board members. The addition of any new directors probably won't be announced until after Menlo Park, California-based Facebook holds its initial public offering, one of the people said. BLOOMBERG



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Ex-Murdoch editor charged in phone-hacking scandal

Rebekah Brooks, a close confidante of Rupert Murdoch, was charged yesterday with interfering with a police investigation into a phone-hacking scandal that has rocked the tycoon's empire and sent shockwaves through the British political establishment.

Brooks, 43, was charged with conspiring to remove boxes of archive records from Murdoch's London headquarters; concealing material from detectives; and hiding documents, computers and other electronic equipment from the police.

If found guilty, she could face a prison sentence.

The charges against Brooks, her husband and four others are the first since police re-launched an investigation into alleged illegal practices at Murdoch's British newspapers following accusations that the extent of wrongdoing had been covered up.

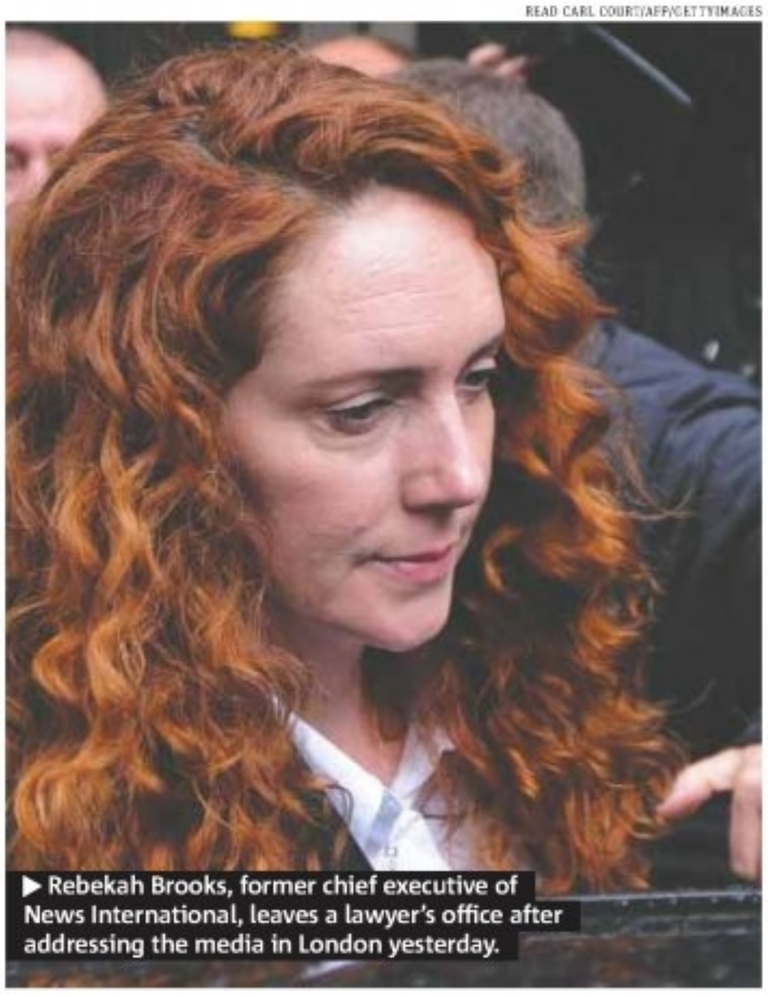
The news is a personal blow for the world's most powerful media boss and also embarrassing for British Prime Minister David Cameron, who was close friends with Brooks and sent her text messages of support when the alleged offenses took place. **REUTERS**

Also charged

- Brooks' racehorse trainer husband, Charlie Brooks
- Her secretary
- Other staff, including her driver
- Security officials from News International, the British newspaper arm of Murdoch's News Corp. media empire

"I have grave doubts that my wife will ever get a fair trial, given the volume of biased commentary which she has been subject to."
CHARLIE BROOKS

READ CARL COURT/AFP/GETTYIMAGES



▶ Rebekah Brooks, former chief executive of News International, leaves a lawyer's office after addressing the media in London yesterday.

World markets dip after Greece calls for new elections

GETTY IMAGES

World stocks dropped and the euro fell to a four-month low against the dollar yesterday after Greece said it would hold new elections and worries increased about its possible exit from the euro zone.

Gold touched a four-and-a-half-month low, with the euro's weakness unnerving investors over the profitability of holding euro-denominated assets.

The political turmoil in Greece kept pressure on markets. Investors have been concerned that long-lasting problems in the euro zone and a likely recession will hit global growth.

Greek politicians again failed to agree on a new government, nine days after an inconclusive election. After Greece's president said the country will hold new elections, the euro slumped and investors fled to the safe-haven dollar. **REUTERS**

▶ Greek Democratic Party leader, Fotis Kouvelis

News in brief

GM plans to stop advertising on Facebook

DETROIT. General Motors Co. will stop advertising on Facebook, a move that comes during the same week the social networking website is due to go public.

The U.S. automaker confirmed a report by the Wall Street Journal. A source familiar with the automaker's plans said GM's marketing executives decided Facebook's ads had little impact on consumers.

GM said it will still have Facebook pages marketing its vehicles, but it will drop use of paid ads. Anyone can create a Facebook page at no cost. GM pays no fee to Facebook for its pages, which allow the automaker to reach consumers directly. **REUTERS**

Vatican, Benetton settle dispute over pope, imam kiss ad

VATICAN CITY. Italian fashion firm Benetton has agreed to make a donation to a Catholic charity to end a legal dispute with the Vatican over an advertisement that showed Pope Benedict kissing an imam on the lips, the Vatican said yesterday.

Spokesman Father Federico Lombardi said the Vatican had won a moral victory, achieving its aim of defending the pope's image through legal means.

The picture of the pope was part of shock advertising campaign called UNHATE, in which a number of world leaders featured. **REUTERS**

THE WORD

Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip @monicaatmetro monica.weymouth@metro.us

Jay-Z has Obama's back on gay marriage

When Jay-Z went on CNN yesterday and was asked about Obama's recent public support of gay marriage, he didn't necessarily say anything groundbreaking. We're all humans, we're wasting our time talking about this, love happens: You've heard this before.

But, that said, everything sounds so much cooler when it's delivered with a little Jay-Z swagger. This guy should consider running for office — or calling us:

"I've always thought of [opposition to gay marriage] as something that was still holding the country back. What people do in their own homes is their business."

Of course it is. I bet your home is lovely. It seems like it would smell really nice and have good snacks. Swoon.

"It's really not about votes, it's about people. Whether it costs [Obama] votes or not, I think it's the right thing to do as a human being."

We're humans! We love being human. Go humans.

"You can choose to love whoever you love."

Like you, for instance. I mean, if Beyonce's cool with it. She's probably not. Forget this part happened.

▶ Talk to us, Jay.

It's official: We're afraid of Tom Cruise

We don't know what to make of the June cover of W magazine: We get that it's a joke and **Tom Cruise** is in character for his upcoming heavy-metal musical "Rock of Ages," but we suspect he thinks he looks seriously hot here.

Inside, the actor talks about where he learned his "Risky Business" dance moves: "My mother worked, my sisters were out, and I'd turn the music up. I learned how to dance watching 'Soul Train.' I noticed that if a guy could dance, he'd get a lot of attention and girls would want to dance with him. I worked very hard at imitating those moves."

Now if only he worked very hard at imitating how humans act. Oh — like you were fooling anyone with those eyes, Tom.

Crazy doesn't come cheap

Demi Lovato may get to sit at the same table as **Britney Spears** on "The X Factor," but she won't be taking home the same paycheck. While Spears signed a $15 million deal, Lovato will be earning a little more than $1 million for judging Season 2 of the singing competition, reports TMZ. Take note, Demi: Sometimes taking a year off to fall out of limos covered in Cheetos dust pays — big time.

Lovato

Talking points

First Travolta accuser drops lawsuit

The first man to accuse **John Travolta** of sexual battery has dropped the lawsuit he filed against the actor. The unnamed masseur claimed that the actor had harassed him during a massage session in Beverly Hills, but evidence placing Travolta in New York during the alleged incident cast doubts over the accusations. A second masseur is still suing over a separate incident. Travolta's lawyers have maintained that all of the claims are "complete fabrication and fiction."

Hemsworth on name games

What's in a name? Well, for **Chris Hemsworth**'s newborn daughter, **India**, it simply pleased the parents. "It was just a name we liked," Hemsworth explains to E! News. "I always kind of liked Indie or Indiana for a boy, and she liked India. We sort of went, 'Oh well, whether it's a boy or girl, that will decide it.' It just seemed to fit." The 28-year-old "Avengers" star is equally pleased with finally being a father. "I've wanted to have kids for a long time, and here it is, and I couldn't be happier."

Jessica Alba: Not such a tough girl

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ Hemsworth

While **Jessica Alba** is comfortable with her public image now, it wasn't always so easy, she admits — especially back in her "Dark Angel" days. "I had a show that premiered when I was 19. And right away, everyone formed a strong opinion about me because of the way I was marketed. I was supposed to be sexy, this tough action girl. That's what people expected," she tells Marie Clare magazine. "I felt like I was being objectified, and it made me uncomfortable. I wanted to be chic and elegant!"

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Rashida Jones is easing her way in, Russell Brand is doing a little self-improvement, Katy Perry prefers kitten therapy and Seth MacFarlane won't let his colors burst.

@iamrashidajones: Working up the courage to use Twitter for my idle musings and glib observations. I feel like the sober late-arriver at a raging party.

@rustyrockets: Now I must do kundalini yoga to install a new consciousness in the ol' brain box.

@katyperry: all I need in this life of sin is me and my kitten.

@SethMacFarlane: Whenever I hear Katy Perry's "Firework", I like to picture an elderly Jewish man covering his ears and saying, "Aaa, please don't yell!"

Jones

Celebrity identity crisis

In honor of "The Dictator," we look back on some of our favorite celebrity alter egos — because, well, dictators aren't that photogenic.

1: We're not exactly sure where Mimi (namesake of "The Emancipation of **Mimi**" album) fits into the **Mariah Carey** continuum, but we think it correlates with the height of the diva's hair/dress.

2: Call us old school — or worse — but **Ali G** will always be our favorite **Sacha Baron Cohen** character.

3: If we only knew then that **Hannah Montana** was far less maddening than **Miley Cyrus** proper.

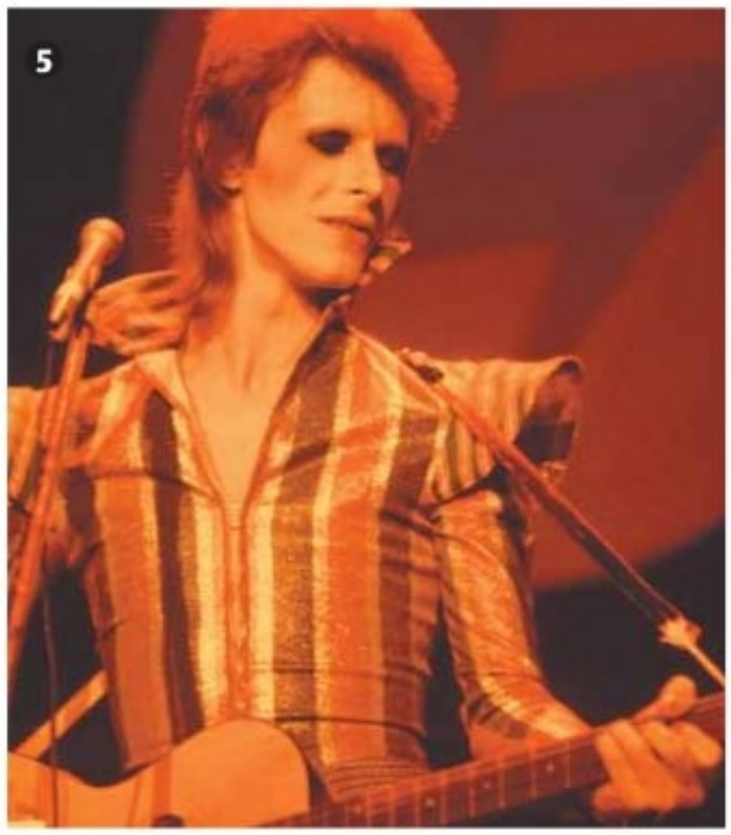
4: As **Sasha Fierce**, **Beyonce** was rocking a Snooki-approved bump and bionic glove circa 2008.

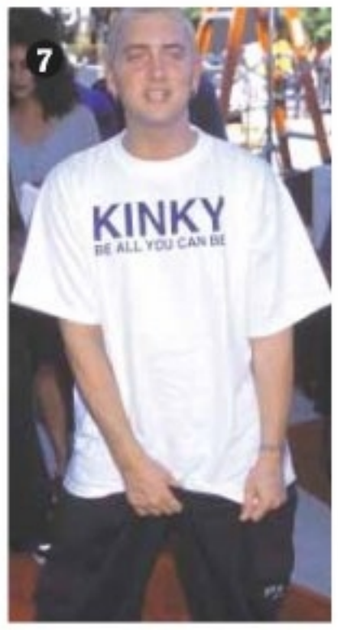
5: As the glamorous grandfather of stage alter egos, **Bowie's Ziggy Stardust** introduced the world to the wonder of boys in eyeliner.

6: Christina Aguilera's raunchier self, **Xtina**, debuted in 2002 with the release of "Stripped."

7: Even **Eminem** didn't seem to have a firm grasp on where **Slim Shady** began (or **Marshall Mathers**, for that matter). But we're pretty sure this was a sighting of the rapper's brattier side.

1: RON WOLFSON/WIREIMAGE
2: THEO WARGO/WIREIMAGE
3: KEVIN MAZUR/WIREIMAGE
4: JEFF KRAVITZ/FILMMAGIC
5: CHRIS WALTER/WIREIMAGE
6: FRANK MICELOTTA/GETTY IMAGES
7: TERRY MCGINNIS/ WIREIMAGE





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A DARKER REALISM

In Philadelphia art, the realist tradition has been known to stray to the dark side New exhibit at the Woodmere explores our 'Haunting Narratives'

Philadelphia has a strong, storied history of realist art, from colonial portraiture through newspaper illustrations.

What Bill Valerio discovered, shortly after taking over as Woodmere Art Museum's new director 18 months ago, was that a certain strain of the city's art has long distorted that tradition in arresting, disturbing ways.

"These are artists in the 20th century who sought to convey something about the human condition by turning that mainstream realist tradition into something haunting and dark," Valerio says, gesturing around the gallery now housing "Haunting Narratives: Detours From Philadelphia Realism, 1935 to the Present."

The exhibition's history of the uncanny begins in the 1930s, with artists like Benton Spruance, Leon Kelly and Robert Riggs, the latter represented by dark, cinematic print work. It traces their legacy through the likes of Sidney Goodman and Peter Paone up to contemporary artists such as Hiro Sakaguchi and Bo Bartlett, whose work suggests twisted stories whose particulars are left to the viewer to discern.

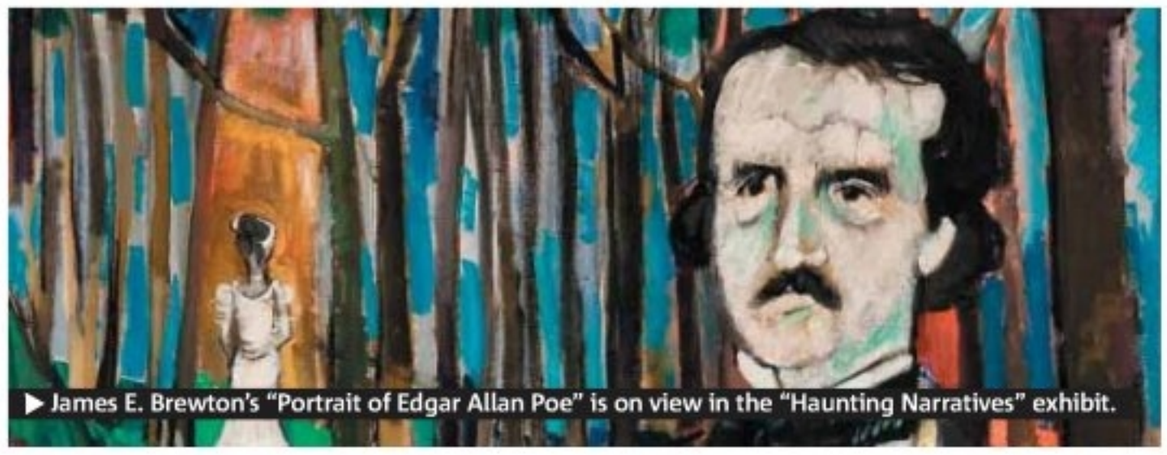
"The point of this show is that most of the art is very enigmatic, so there are stories that lead you to questions," Valerio explains. "But they're growing out of Philadelphia's narrative tradition, only in a minor key, where the goal is to comment on life in society today."

SHAUN BRADY
shaun.brady@metro.us

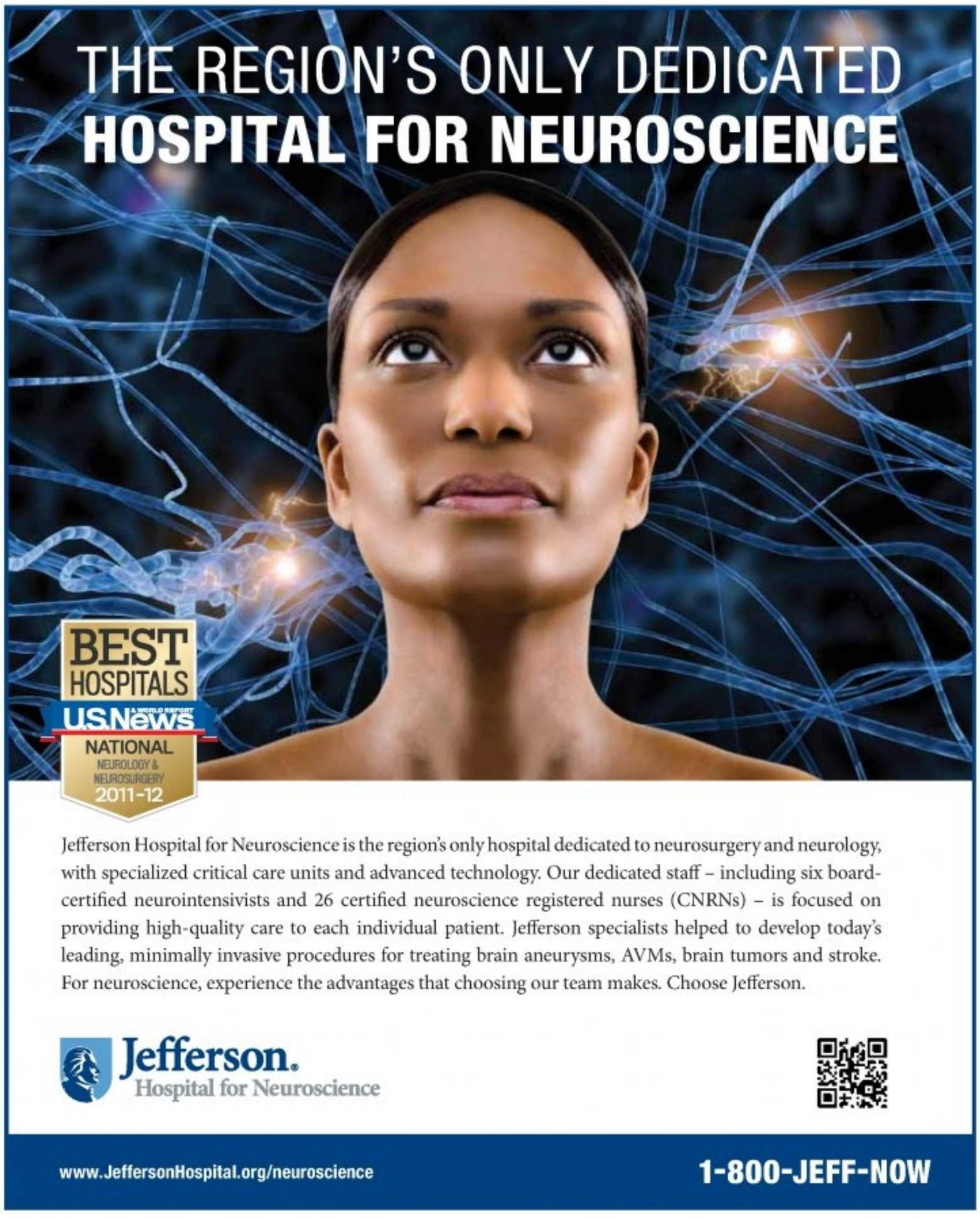
▶ Like many pieces in the exhibit, PAFA grad Bo Bartlett's oil-on-panel, "Passivity," poses more questions than it answers.

If you go

'Haunting Narratives: Detours From Philadelphia Realism'
Through July 15
Woodmere Art Museum
9201 Germantown Ave.
$7-$10, 215-247-0476
www.woodmereartmuseum.org



▶ James E. Brewton's "Portrait of Edgar Allan Poe" is on view in the "Haunting Narratives" exhibit.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Comic relief for an oppressed society

Sacha Baron Cohen's new film,'The Dictator,' hits all the marks of a genius comedy, but he doesn't quite top the critical success of the unscripted 'Borat'

MELINDA SUE GORDON

▶ The "loving oppressor" doles out his wickedness to the fictitious nation of Wadiya.

It wouldn't be an overstatement to say that Sacha Baron Cohen's comedic sense is genius. It's crude and vulgar, but also genius. As with his previous characters — Ali G, Borat and Bruno — Baron Cohen's latest uniformed buffoon makes jokes about racist, sexist and antisemitic attitudes. He teases out in people the opinions that are unfortunately still very much a part of the world, even if they aren't expressed as genuinely as they are felt.

This time Baron Cohen plays Admiral General Aladeen, the leader of the African nation of Wadiya. When he travels to New York to speak to the U.N., he finds that there are detractors within the ranks who are seeking to overthrow him. Replaced by a lookalike, he takes up work at a local health food co-op, run by neo-hippie Zoey (Anna Faris) in the hopes of weaseling his way back into control of his country.

Baron Cohen's greatest success was with "Borat" in which, while playing a TV host from Kazakhstan, he pounced on unassuming non-actors and their firmly held beliefs. As talented of a screenwriter as he is, that kind of spontaneity is where Baron Cohen truly shines. "The Dictator" is hilarious, wise and stunningly appropriate for the time we live in, but Baron Cohen does his best when he can flay unsuspecting victims by luring them into believing he is just as closed-minded as they are.

If you go

'The Dictator'
Director: Larry Charles
Cast: Sacha Baron Cohen, Ben Kingsley, Anna Faris
Rating: R **Grade:** ❶❷❸❹❺

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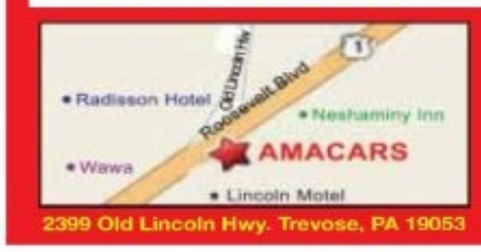

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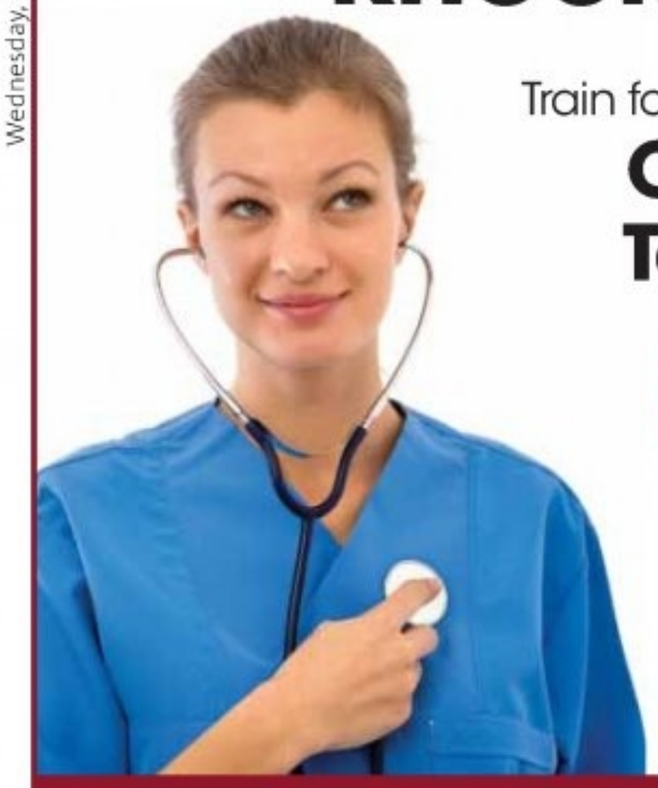

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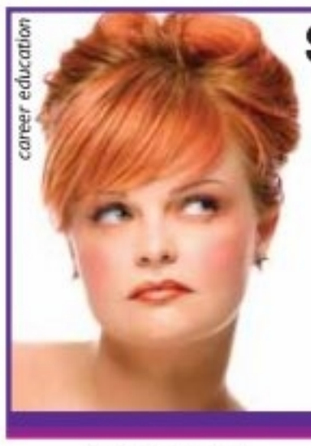

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TV watch list

'Suburgatory'

COMEDY. Chatswin goes all out to honor Mother's Day, which makes Tessa feel even more uncomfortable than usual — especially when George (Jeremy Sisto) and his pregnant lady friend Eden (Alicia Silverstone) attend the Lerners' baby shower.
Season finale, 8:30 p.m., ABC

'American Idol'

REALITY. The final three perform, which leads to extra shots of J.Lo's fabulous outfit to fill the rest of the time.
8 p.m., Fox

'The Weight of the Nation for Kids'

DOCUMENTARY. A companion to the eye-opening "The Weight of the Nation," the documentary series tackling the myths and facts surrounding obesity in America, "The Weight of the Nation for Kids" turns its lens to the youngest fighters against fatty foods. The three-part series opens with "The Great Cafeteria Takeover," profiling a group of New Orleans kids who demanded healthier meals in their schools.
7 p.m., HBO

'The Middle'

COMEDY. Frankie looks like mom of the year when she busts Sue and Axl for making bad decisions — until the poor choice she made to use Brick as her snitch is revealed.
8 p.m., ABC ● AMBER RAY

ABC/RICHARD CARTWRIGHT

▶ George (Sisto) and Eden (Silverstone) in "Suburgatory."

Depp

Johnny and Tim Burton team up of the night scary and erotic again

Aside from being a huge fan of the original 1960s TV series, there was another reason Johnny Depp was so keen to team up with Tim Burton for "Dark Shadows" — about a dysfunctional New England family with a vampire patriarch played by Depp. The star had noticed a troubling trend in the depiction of vampires thanks to the popularity of the "Twilight" series. "I think it was during 'Sweeney Todd' where I think I just blurted out in mid-conversation, 'God, maybe we should do a vampire movie together where you actually have a vampire that looks like a vampire,'" Depp remembers.

Depp and Burton — who have teamed up on eight films now — share an appreciation for the darker elements of horror.

"As a child ... I certainly had this fascination with monsters and vampires as did Tim and whatever this darkness, this mystery," Depp explains. "Then, as you get older, you recognize the erotic nature of the vampire and the idea of the undead."

So what does a vampire look like, according to Depp and Burton? Pale skin and fangs, to be sure — but Depp also had to don elaborate prosthetics to give his fingers an extra joint, plus long, pointy fingernails.

"In every film that I've been lucky enough to do with Tim,

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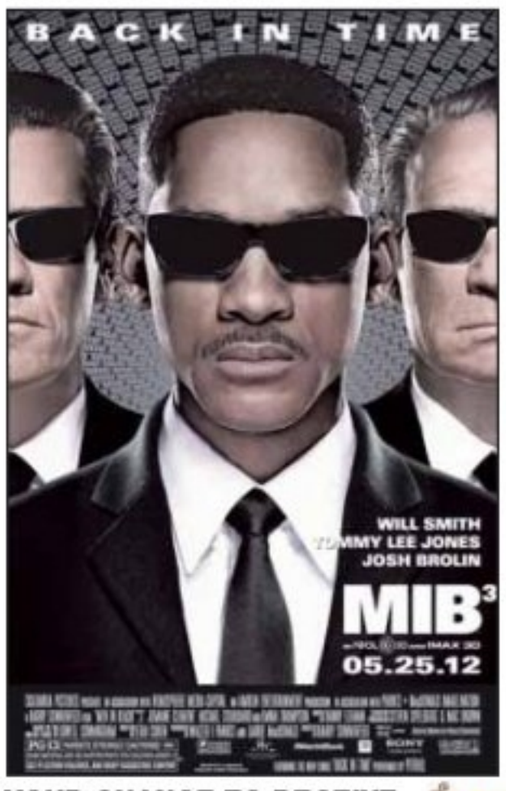
GO BACK IN TIME!



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the vampire

again, this time for 'Dark Shadows' ◗ The actor on making creatures ◗ How he (barely) managed with the fangs and prosthetic fingers

there's always some form of torture, and the nails were Tim's idea," Depp says. "But it was OK, because I had a troop of people who would help me go to the bathroom. They had to have treatment afterwards but they're OK now."

And then there are the teeth. The film finds Depp's Barnabas Collins awakening in 1972 after being interred for 200 years. Needless to say, he's a bit caught off-guard — but nearly as much as the poor construction workers that find him.

"I felt as though I was biting one of the Village People," Depp says of his first onscreen kill as a vampire. "When you had the fangs in, you wanted to be a little bit careful that you didn't actually pierce the jugular, kind of like my experience shaving Alan Rickman [in 'Sweeney Todd'] — which, by the way, neither of us want to do again — especially Alan."

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▶ Jack White doppleganger Johnny Depp stars as Barnabas Collins in "Dark Shadows."

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Staying in character

Captain Jack Sparrow. Sweeney Todd. Edward Scissorhands. Over the course of his 28-year career in film, Johnny Depp has collected an array of oddball alter-egos. What if he could pick one to inhabit for the rest of his life?

▶ "Wow," he says, giving the idea some serious consideration. "Probably the Earl of Rochester." Depp is referring to a rather bold performance in his lesser-known 2004 film, "The Libertine," in which he starred as John Wilmot, a 17th-century poet who famously drank and debauched his way to an early grave, dying of syphilis at 33. Nice work if you can get it.

TOSHIFUMI KITAMURA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Depp brings his charismatic vampire into focus.

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▶ "Starhawk" is in stores now.

Remember that mountain of gold Scrooge McDuck would swim through? That's about how expensive it is to make a top-tier video game these days. As a result, developers simply can't risk giving one console an exclusive to call its own. Console manufacturers, though, can still flex that "we've got what the other one doesn't have" muscle. Here are reviews of two.

▶ 'Mario Tennis Open'

Console: 3DS
Company: Nintendo
Grade: ●●●●◐

Nintendo is essentially the king of exclusive titles, and nobody speaks to that more than everyone's favorite Italian plumber. Mario, just like Joe, may be a plumber in name only. He spends most of his time saving princesses and playing sports. Now he's back on the tennis court, this time in 3-D!

"Mario Tennis Open" is pretty similar in layout to last year's "Mario Kart 7." There are tons of courts, characters and play styles. The online play, available in 1-on-1 and 2-on-2, retains the high watermark set by "MK7." The game tries too hard to shoehorn in touchscreen and gyroscope control, but it's still an addictive and fun game of cartoon tennis.

▶ 'Starhawk'

Console: PS3
Company: Sony
Grade: ●●●●◐

If Nintendo is the king of exclusives, Sony is definitely an archduke with a penchant for poisoning monarchs. The company has the "Uncharted" series, "Resistance," "God of War" and too many more to list. Now they have "Starhawk," too.

This third-person action title has a pretty generic single player campaign. The writing is lazy and doesn't adequately capture the majesty of the space Western. Some of the setpieces are cool, but a great many are forgettable. So why the high score? The multiplayer is seriously amazing. Like, "hold your pee in for 16 hours because you are so addicted" amazing. Thirty-two people in space battling it out on foot, in ships or however else they want. It's the craziest online experience to be had on the PS3.

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mystyle

Francisco Costa's new line for Macy's is more Calvin than Carnival

The latest collection of summer dresses from Francisco Costa for Calvin Klein seems designed to transition from day to night. In fact, the setting sun was the inspiration for the line's sexy, modern shapes cast in a range of warm tones to cool neutrals.

This collection, available today in stores and online, is part of Macy's "A Magical Journey to Brasil" campaign, which enlists a variety of designers to celebrate the country's vibrant culture. Ten percent of sales from these collections will benefit the Amazon rainforest. We spoke to Costa about how he captured his native Brazil with these looks.

Which elements of your home country did you want to evoke with this collection?

Architecture, for me, is the most important thing. I have great love for architecture, and Brazilian architecture really signified a lot for me growing up ... [such as] the gorgeous sunset over the [Niteroi Contemporary Art] Museum, which is basically cement and steel — very basic elements. That's my color palette: the sunset colors over the cool cement, and the white and black and gray.

The cool colors and minimalism probably aren't what people usually associate with Brazil.

Well, it is very festive — and very sophisticated. There is a tremendous sophistication in

▶ Costa

Brazilian architecture and art. I think there's a misconception of Brazil as Carnival. The stereotypical Brazil is great, but there's a love of sophistication there that is represented through my designs, through the fabrication, colors and wearability.

Are there any major differences in Brazilian and American style?

Brazilian women are very sensuous. Maybe there's a little more sensuality in the way they present themselves — a little less puritan, maybe. ... There's an easiness about the culture, the weather, what have you — the less fussy, the better. There's a level of confidence in Brazilian women — and they're not all the same, you know, it's not all perfect bodies. They're not all Gisele [Bundchen], but they're all confident, which is really nice.

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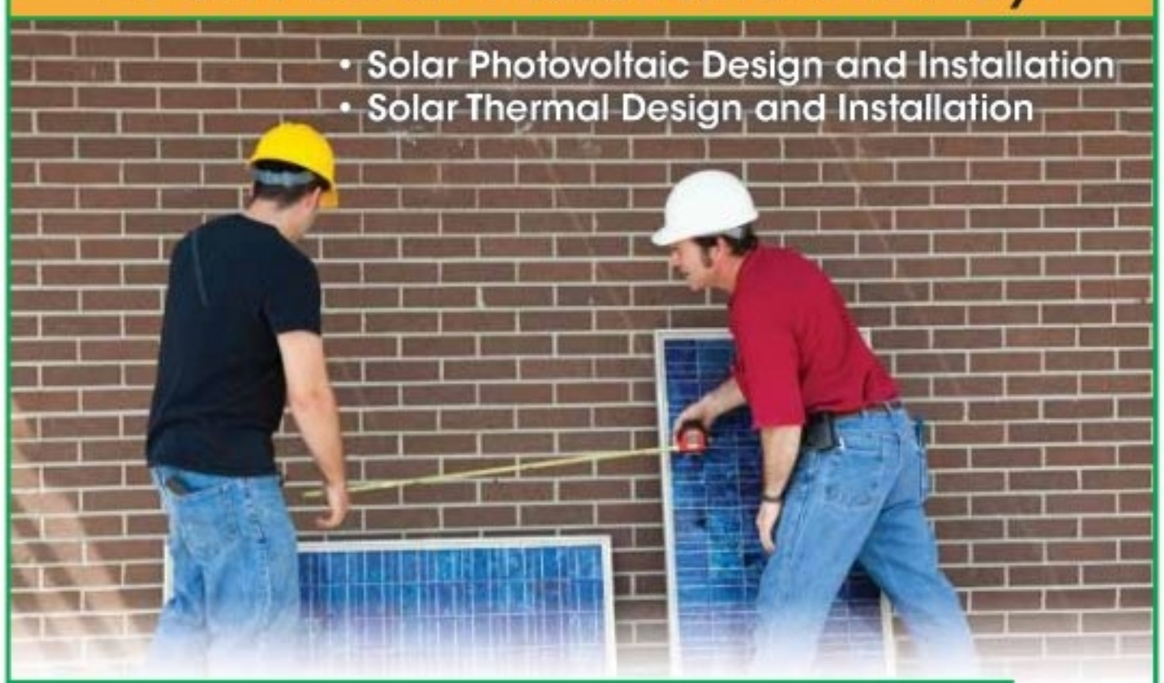

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Advice

DR. MARK MELROSE
BOARD-CERTIFIED EMERGENCY PHYSICIAN AT URGENT CARE MANHATTAN

HEADACHES: A REAL PAIN

How do I know if my headache is a health emergency or if I'm just suffering from too much stress?

Headaches are a common source of daily pain and discomfort for millions. The most common causes include fever due to infection, tension headaches due to stress and migraines caused by changes in blood flow in the brain. Other, more ominous, causes of headaches include bleeding due to ruptured blood vessels called aneurysms, strokes or meningitis.

Tension headaches are caused by spasm or inflammation of the muscles in the scalp and neck. These headaches are typically of gradual onset, limited duration and are more annoying than disabling. Tension headaches are usually not accompanied by other systemic symptoms such as fever, weakness, numbness, blurry vision or nausea and vomiting.

Headaches due to various illnesses may be caused by a sinus or dental infection, the fever of a cold or flu or, of greater concern, meningitis. Meningitis is a viral or bacterial infection of the lining and fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord. The headache of meningitis is usually severe, gets rapidly worse and is accompanied by fever, neck stiffness and a toxic appearance. If you suspect your headache may be due to this potentially life-threatening infection, see your doctor immediately or go to the nearest emergency room.

A migraine headache is typically accompanied by other symptoms that may include nausea, a pounding sensation in the head or an aura (warning sensation) such as vision disturbances that may precede the headache. Migraines can be triggered by factors including food sensitivities, menstrual cycle hormonal changes, alcohol and lack of sleep.

Quoted

"Migraines can be triggered by factors including food sensitivities, menstrual cycle hormonal changes, alcohol and lack of sleep."
DR. MELROSE

The sudden onset of the worst headache of your life should be evaluated by a physician immediately. These symptoms typically signal a ruptured aneurysm, a potentially fatal leaking artery in the brain.

Most headaches are caused by benign conditions and can be treated with over-the-counter pain medication. The new onset of a headache that is different or worse than usual for you, or accompanied by symptoms that prevent you from going about your daily life, should be evaluated by a doctor sooner rather than later.

*— **Mark Melrose**, DO, is a board-certified emergency physician at Urgent Care Manhattan. E-mail him your questions at **askdrmark@metro.us**.*

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send 100-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

Jamie Oliver wants you

On May 19, the British chef asks you to join his healthy-eating crusade, aka Food Revolution Day

Chef Jamie Oliver has devoted his career to fighting unhealthy eating — and you can see why: Global obesity has more than doubled since 1980. Each year, 2.8 million adults around the world die as a result of being overweight.

On Saturday, the British TV star launches his latest effort: Food Revolution Day, a global campaign that asks you to think about eating right. You can participate by hosting a locally sourced dinner party or starting a campaign at work or school. Check out **www.foodrevolutionday.com** for more ideas and events in your city. Here's Oliver on why you should join him:

So, the obesity crisis: How did we end up here?

The main issue is the Western diet: It's single-handedly more responsible for damage to global health than anything else. In so many Western countries, we have three generations of people who were never taught how to cook at home. Both parents were at work, food education at school is s—, they can't learn there. I've been in houses where kids only hydrate on fizzy drinks and show no interest in tap water. And technology, freezing techniques and processed foods have only made things worse.

Will the world ever get healthy again?

I actually think that multinationals and fast-food companies are the best people to lead the change. If they chose to get behind healthy eating, they would do a better job than any other government or individual. If you thought the oil and petrol industry was complicated and causing wars, think again. The food industry is on another level. The problem is the corruption between food industries and governments. We need to address smaller issues like chicken farming or pink slime.

And how will Food Revolution Day help?

I'm not anti-burger or anti-pizza; I'm anti-s— food. With Food Revolution Day, I'm trying to get as many people as possible to stir the pot. We all need to become a little fussier about what we put in our [mouths]. When you put something in your mouth, it's a very personal thing that affects you straight away.

You've already tried to change North American food habits once. What makes you think people will listen to you this time?

I expect nothing. People may not want me around, but I don't think I've ever wasted my time. I don't give a s— if people think I'm crazy. North America is difficult as it's where a lot of the unhealthy foods and brands are created. It's the eye of the storm. Most countries eventually follow their trends.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Star chef Jamie Oliver is on a mission to change how the world eats.

Quoted

'I'm not anti-burger or anti-pizza; I'm anti-s— food'

OLIVER

Q&A

Do you think that most Americans would rather go to McDonald's than to the gym?

Things need to change, otherwise the whole country will come to a standstill. People won't be mobile. It's a question of national security. How can you train an army if the nation is obese? Progress will happen. They have no choice.

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

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Letters

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As US history turns, consensus a dream

RE: "GAY MARRIAGE RIGHTS BACKLASH BACKLASH": If same-sex couples need to use the word "marriage" in order to get the legal rights and recognition that a loving commited union deserves, then why not just give them the word? It doesn't hurt; it's only a word!
MARK NOBLE, VIA E-MAIL

History does not back up when it comes to advancements in equality. We will not have another president who believes in legislating against the right of women to vote, or the right for interracial couples to marry. We will never have another president in favor of legislating against same-sex marriage. Shout and stamp your feet, or sing and cheer, it's over — that inequality is over, that piece of legislated hate is over. Cling to it and you're over. Next.
SCOTT KEELEY, VIA E-MAIL

Those who are against gay rights have a whole lot in common with the Taliban who deny their people their civil rights and in many cases their lives. In America, we just make them miserable.
SUZY SANDOR, VIA E-MAIL

Stephen Watson's letter criticizes people for not knowing their history, then states incorrectly that the federal government once prohibited interracial marriage. Actually such marriages were only prohibited under state law. Such laws existed in only 16 states at the time the Supreme Court declared such laws unconstitutional in 1967. **MIKE TROY, VIA E-MAIL**

In response to Cher Hearn: Yes, you're right for pointing out that marriage at one time was originally a business transaction wherein the bride was the property of her father who had a contract with the father of the groom. However, it was still a union between a man and a woman.
KAREN SMITH, VIA E-MAIL

Should all weddings in North America before July 4, 1776, be annuled because the government did not sanction the wedding? No, of course not! Legal precedent is clear and historically churches are where weddings, baptisms, and funerals are held and recorded; the government merely recognizes it. Marriage is a religious institution, and it has been for some time; it's not a political one.
JOHN HEMPHILL, VIA E-MAIL

I have one request: that people stop comparing being gay to being black. There is no comparison to the hardships that blacks have faced to get the rights that we have now. Blacks were considered the lowest of the low and in some aspects still are. So blacks do not have to be sensitive to what homosexuals are going through. Until they are hunted, hung and ridiculed, don't look to us for sympathy.
GARRETT LESTER, VIA E-MAIL

I just want to make sure I understand this correctly: Just because I am black I should support gay marriage? I don't know what can be more far from reality. Gay marriage is not a civil rights issue stated by some, it is a moral issue. I didn't make it this way; talk to the man upstairs who deemed this from the beginning of creation.
NICOLE PEARSALL, VIA E-MAIL

The Catholic religion opposes all forms of hatred including racism, sexism, homophobia and anti-Semitism.
JOHN FRANCIS FOX, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: letters@metro.us

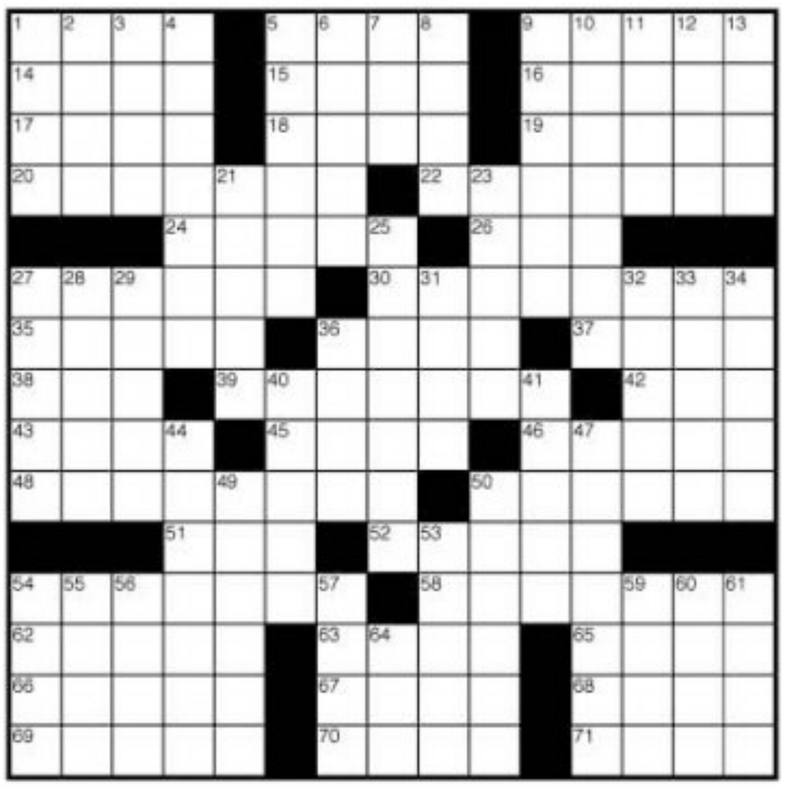
Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** You'll be surprised by your comprehension of the old saying: "We learn by teaching." Let others be the instructors, for a change.
♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** If you discover that others are ready and willing to help you, drop everything and take them up on their offer. Chances are it'll be a golden opportunity.
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** It isn't likely you'll find a better day to confront an individual about a prickly issue that needs resolution. By taking advantage of opportune timing, beneficial results can be achieved.
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Utilize your strong feelings of ambition and motivation to take care of several large-scale objectives. It's the strong desire to succeed that powers the engine of success.
♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** If you put your best foot forward, certain people with whom you'll be in contact socially will happily agree to play some important roles in your present activities.
♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Because no one knows your needs better than you, it will be up to you to orchestrate what measures should be taken to enhance your overall material security.
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** For reasons you may not fully understand, your influence over your peers could be very powerful at this point in time. Keep your comments as constructive as possible.
♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Although it generally isn't advisable, in your case it's OK to involve people with whom you share a close personal relationship in your business ventures.
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** You should finally be able to come up with a way to circumvent an obstacle in your path. Be ready, because it will require a surge of activity on your part.
♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** It could be vital to keep your ideas and intentions confined only to those who are directly involved in an important endeavor on which you're working. Secrecy is a must.
♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Be open-minded to a new way of doing something that might be superior to your present method. Be flexible in mind and keep your options open, and you'll come out ahead.
♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Although each might require a bit of effort, several important objectives can be attained. Don't hesitate to go all out in order to achieve what you want. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

Across
1 Chafes
5 Thomas __ Edison
9 Long-tailed squawker
14 Kind of hygiene
15 Non-clerical
16 Weasel out of
17 Give the eye
18 __ B'rith
19 Socially challenged ones
20 Horse's "lunchbox"
22 Most precious
24 Star in Cygnus
26 False front
27 Dishonorably
30 Lying fallow
35 Shake off
36 Fingerprint, maybe
37 Audition tape
38 PC acronym
39 Gaily
42 Encyclopedia bk.
43 Far East cuisine
45 Oaf
46 Chosen few
48 Metal-cutting tools
50 Lamented
51 911 responder
52 Things to split
54 Meter readers
58 Lake cabins, often
62 Cager Shaq __
63 Revival shout
65 Ms. Dinesen
66 Witless
67 Sheet of stamps
68 Wheel hub
69 Bedouin, for one
70 Char on the outside
71 Eat away at

Down
1 Overhead structure
2 Natural impulse
3 Hoedown prop
4 Took the toboggan
5 Hudson River city
6 Jessica or Hope
7 By way of
8 Kind of test
9 Threat
10 Warded off
11 Relief org.
12 Attaches
13 Into the sunset
21 Amazon port
23 Palette adjunct
25 Cattail
27 Bed on a ship
28 Wahine's welcome
29 Wild shrub
31 Soir follower
32 Goethe villain
33 Overdo a role
34 Gave out sparingly
36 As the __ flies
40 Please greatly
41 Be lovesick
44 Art of flower-arranging
47 Liable to sink
49 Showed pleasure
50 Kind of roast
53 Sports venue
54 Fountain toss-in
55 Livy's year
56 Laser emission
57 Drains, as of energy
59 Strong __ __ ox
60 Pumice source
61 Represent unfairly
64 Daisy __ Yokum



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	1		4		9		3	
	2				7			5
			7					
	3	9				5	6	
6			5		1	3		4

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

	4	1			7			8
2					9	7		
		7	6			9		
4			8			1		5
		6				8		
7		8			2			6
		5			3	6		
		4	9					3
3			4			5	8	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS: WWW.METRO.US/PUZZLES

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Closing the gap: Sixers confident in crunch time

Young, inexperienced group finding ways in fourth quarters ◗ Collins' squad 3-1 in games decided by five points or fewer in the playoffs ◗ Sixers' Allen coming of age against Garnett

With two games of the Eastern Conference semifinals in the books, we know two things: Not much separates the Celtics from the 76ers and it's going to be an ugly series.

On the surface, that sounds like a recipe for disaster. The Sixers went 35-31 in the regular season, but were a laughable 5-18 in games decided by eight points or fewer. They were even worse in games decided by five points or fewer, recording a 1-8 mark.

The ineptitude may be a little fluky, but it speaks to the lack of a star and the team's general offensive ineptitude.

However, the pendulum has begun to turn in the playoffs. The Sixers squeezed out a five-point win over the Bulls in Game 3. They later clinched that series with a wild, one-point Game 6 victory. Each of the first two Celtics games have come down to a point, with the teams splitting the difference. Add it up and the Sixers own a 3-1 record in the playoffs in games decided by five points or fewer.

"I have to tell you, all season long we couldn't win these games," coach Doug Collins said. "And now our guys are believing they can do it, and it is pretty special to watch."

As the series shifts to the Wells Fargo Center for Game 3, both sides are expecting another close one. And suddenly, that's just fine by the Sixers.

"Now it's our time to come home, we have home-court advantage," Jrue Holiday said. "Just a lot of confidence."

ADAM LEVITAN
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ON TV TODAY

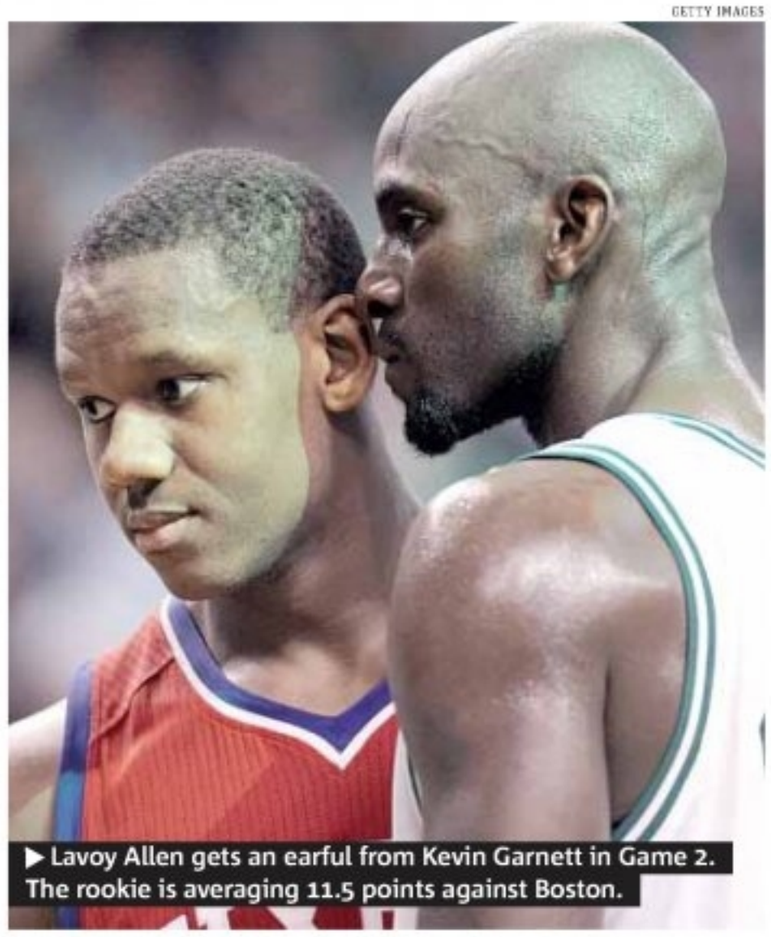
Game 3: Celtics at Sixers, 7 p.m. (TNT)

Ahoy Lavoy

Lavoy Allen has gone from an afterthought as a second-round rookie to one of the biggest keys in the series.

He's outplaying Elton Brand, leading to crucial minutes and a defensive assignment on Kevin Garnett in crunch time. Allen is averaging 11.5 points, 7.5 rebounds and 1.5 blocks against the Celtics.

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Lavoy Allen gets an earful from Kevin Garnett in Game 2. The rookie is averaging 11.5 points against Boston.

Congrats

Flyers' Giroux wins award

Claude Giroux has won the 2012 John Wanamaker Athletic Award. He'll be honored June 5 by the Philadelphia Sports Congress.

The Flyers star finished the season with 28 goals and 65 assists (93 points) and led the NHL in scoring during the first round of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Sixers notebook

Yo Philly, show ya luv

The 76ers have caught the attention of the NBA. They have yet to grab the attention of the hometown fans.

In the first-round playoff series against the Chicago Bulls, attendance in pivotal Games 4 and 6 could only be classified as spotty — despite announced sellouts.

Perhaps now that the Sixers are in position to reach the Eastern Conference finals, the doors to the bandwagon will begin to overflow.

Tickets as low as $25 were still available yesterday afternoon. Fans in attendance will receive a T-shirt as part of a planned "Red Out" promotion.

Also, the Ben Franklin Bridge, Liberty Towers, Cira Center, BNY Mellon Center and Camden County City Hall will all be lit up in Sixers' colors today.

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▶ Jake Diekman earned his first victory in the big leagues yesterday after tossing 1 1/3 scoreless innings in relief. The 25-year-old was just called up to the majors last Friday.

Diekman thrown into fire, delivers first MLB victory

◗ Rookie reliever bails out Phils bullpen ◗ Earns first career win in 4-3, walk-off victory ◗ Lee still winless

Jake Diekman was simply trying to control his breathing when he came to the mound yesterday afternoon in the ninth inning of a tie ballgame.

The talented left-hander was thrown into the fire, without warning, with the winning run resting on third base. It was Diekman's job to get Marwin Gonzalez out, and he fanned him on five pitches.

"I wanted to walk into the dugout and take a huge breath," Diekman said, after making his MLB debut. "I came in and told Juan Pierre, 'This is awesome.' I don't think I could ever dream about getting a win in my debut, it's pretty crazy."

The sequence wasn't exactly how the 25-year-old imagined it — he figured he'd own a four- or five-run lead — but he'll take it. Especially after Hunter Pence's walk-off home run in the 10th made him the pitcher of record in a 4-3 Phillies win.

Diekman said he couldn't feel his legs when he got the call to come in. He knew it was his job to limit further damage after Chad Qualls blew a two-run save. But his first priority was to make it safely out of the bullpen.

"When I got put in, I had to make sure I didn't trip down the stairs first," Diekman said half-joking. "And then I just wanted to make it all the way to the mound, if I could. That's the one thing that went through my head."

Diekman started Gonzalez off with a 96-mph fastball, which Gonzalez took for a strike. He retired him with a nasty slider at 83 mph.

"I really wanted to throw a first-pitch fastball," he said. "I didn't want to start off 1-0."

The Phillies rewarded Diekman by sending him back out in the 10th inning. He induced a fly ball out, then notched back-to-back strikeouts.

"I feel pretty comfortable because I tried to control my breathing as much as possible, so that second inning helped out a lot, because I had that one hitter already, so I felt like I did it once, let's go do it again," Diekman said.

The rookie knows he has an excellent chance to make an impact on the Phillies' struggling bullpen. The team's 5.10 ERA is the worst mark in Major League Baseball.

Before he starts on that noble quest, Diekman had another one: He planned to call his dad. What did he plan on telling him?

"I got a ball for you, dad," Diekman said.

MIKE GREGER
mgreger@metro.us

Lee stellar in no-decision

Cliff Lee was at a loss for words after his third straight no-decision. Lee is 0-1 with a 1.95 ERA.

"That's something that's out of my control," Lee said. "All I can do is control what I can control and that's what I focus on."

Lee was in line for his first win until the ninth. Chad Qualls blew the save, after Brian Bogusevic crossed home on a fielding error by Hunter Pence.

"I feel bad not getting a win for Cliff," Pence said. "I feel bad about that play in the outfield."

Lee gave up one run (a solo shot in the seventh) and had 10 strikeouts, his 19th career double-digit strikeout game.

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Phillies skipper Charlie Manuel got ejected from yesterday's 4-3 win in the eighth. Manuel got into it with Bob Davidson after the home-plate umpire interfered with catcher Brian Schneider, which allowed Jason Castro to reach first base safely. After the game, Manuel wouldn't tell reporters what words were exchanged or why he was arguing. "That's between Bob and I," he said. "I don't need to say [why]."

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Black and white and red all over

Creative director Elizabeth Kiester describes her bright, glossy, high-rise apartment as 'geometric, graphic and maximalist' We try to recreate the look

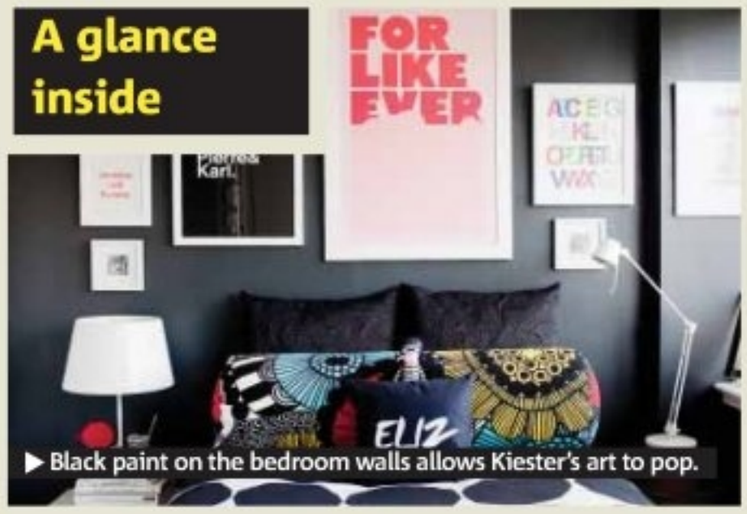
If you were to combine Coco Chanel's trademark black-and-white aesthetic with the pop quality of, say, a Diet Coke can, you'd get the eye candy that is Elizabeth Kiester's New York apartment. Perhaps not surprisingly for a fashion editor-turned-creative director, her home is a seamless extension of her wardrobe.

"My entire place is grounded in black and white with pops of color — mostly red. It never goes out of style," she explains, also describing her trademark sartorial look. "I match my apartment every day!"

Kiester matches her home.

She accessorizes her place with graphic Marimekko linens, knickknacks purchased in Tokyo and religious icons collected from all over the world, in the same maximalist way that she would style a black tailored suit. "I am not a minimalist. I love accessories in my home and on my person — stacks of bangles and chunky jewelry, oversized glasses and hats," she adds. If she sounds like a pro at this, it's because she is in a way. "My mom was an interior decorator and my sister is one. So I think it runs in my blood."

A glance inside



Black paint on the bedroom walls allows Kiester's art to pop.

Red is her favorite accent color.

Kiester collects religious icons from around the world.

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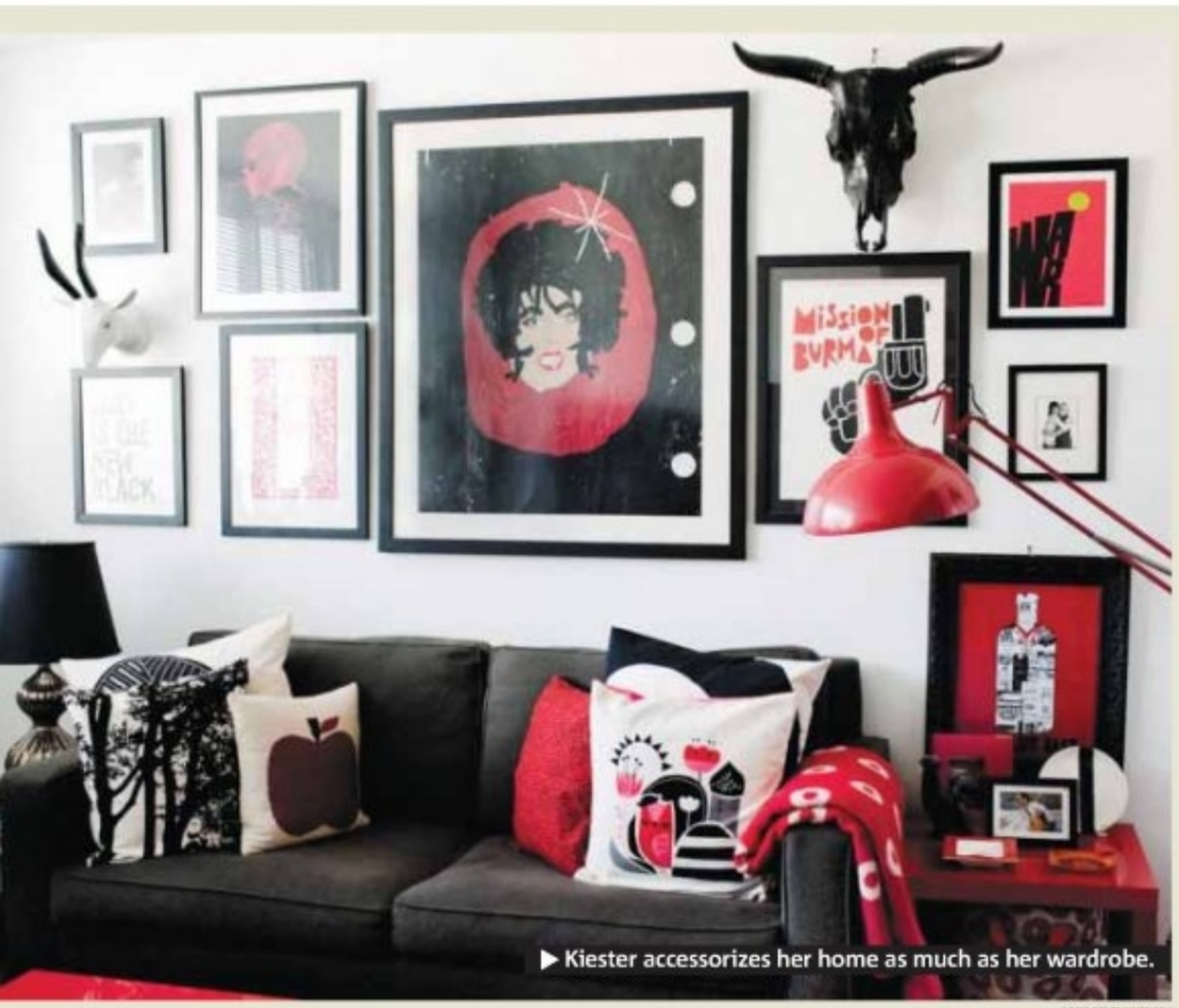

▶ Kiester accessorizes her home as much as her wardrobe.

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Kiester's go-to brands

- **Towels:** "My mother always told me one should splurge and buy only Royal Velvet towels. They are the lushest and most luxurious."
- **Bed linens:** "I don't really care about thread count. So I buy sheets that have gorgeous graphic prints. They're not easy to find. Most of the ones I have are from Marimekko."
- **Tableware:** "Ikea, for it's value, cuteness and sharpness."

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30 yr fixed	3.625	0.000	$995	20%	3.674
20 yr fixed	3.500	0.000	$995	20%	3.568
15 yr fixed	2.875	0.000	$995	20%	2.962
30 yr FHA	3.375	0.000	$0	3.5%	4.246
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(A) 4121 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego, CA 92108, NMLS#2890,					*32890*

Program	Rate	Points	Fees	% Down	APR
PRUDENTIAL SAVINGS BANK				**215-755-1500** www.prudentialsavingsbank.com	
30 yr fixed	4.000	0.000	$166	20%	4.054
15 yr jumbo	3.250	0.000	$166	20%	3.303
30 yr jumbo	4.000	0.000	$166	20%	4.035
(C) 1834 W. Oregon Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19145					

Legend: The rate and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 5/14/12. © 2012 Bankrate, Inc. http://www.interest.com. The APR may increase after consummation and may vary. Payments do not include amounts for taxes and insurance. The fees set forth for each advertisement above may be charged to open the plan. (A) Mortgage Banker, (B) Mortgage Broker, (C) Bank, (D) S & L, (E) Credit Union, (BA) indicates Licensed Mortgage Banker, NYS Banking Dept., (BR) indicates Registered Mortgage Broker, NYS Banking Dept., (loans arranged through third parties). "Call for Rates" means actual rates were not available at press time. All rates are quoted on a minimum FICO score of 740. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of $165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of $435,000. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Lock Days: 30-60. Annual percentage rates (APRs) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. Bankrate, Inc. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates and fees in this table. All rates, fees and other information are subject to change without notice. Bankrate, Inc. does not own any financial institutions. Some or all of the companies appearing in this table pay a fee to appear in this table. If you are seeking a mortgage in excess of $417,000, recent legislation may enable lenders in certain locations to provide rates that are different from those shown in the table above. Sample Repayment Terms – ex. 360 monthly payments of $5.29 per $1,000 borrowed ex. 180 monthly payments of $7.56 per $1,000 borrowed. We recommend that you contact your lender directly to determine what rates may be available to you. **To appear in this table, call 800-509-4636. To report any inaccuracies, call 888-509-4636. • http://www.interest.com**

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Gear up in the city of bikerly love

Busybee Homestore has plenty of bike-inspired accessories to get your home decor wheels turning

In honor of National Bike Month, the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia just rolled out a citywide bike riding challenge and is busy backing Philly's new road safety campaign, "Give Respect Get Respect." Love 'em or love to yell at them to get out of your way, the bikers are out in full force.

For all those cyclists in the "city of bikerly love," Busybee Homestore stocks several bike-themed accessories in their South Street store and online at store.busybeephilly.com. Mark Miklosovich of Busybee, who says he's been obsessed with bikes for over 25 years, picks a few of his faves.

RACHEL VIGODA
letters@metro.us

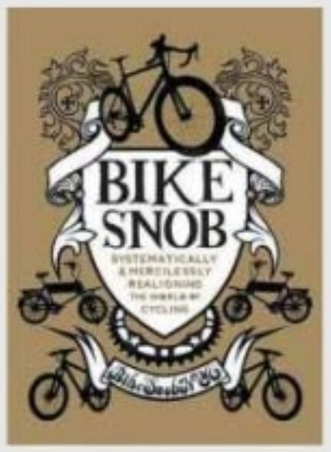
Pedal power

1. "Busybee loves the idea of a restored vintage bike wheel being used to display photos, postcards or other small personal items," Miklosovich says. **Memo board, $95**

2. "It's function meets style for your pocket, kitchen, or as a great gift," says Miklosovich of this **bike chain-turned-bottle opener ($10)**.

3. "We love how the old chains make for such a unique and attractive wine bottle rack." **Wine rack, $125**

4. "This is a stylish and comfy screen-printed pillow that makes a statement and celebrates the golden age of cycling." **Pillow, $75**



Don't forget the coffee table

"'Bike Snob' is a great read for any cycling aficionado," says Miklosovich. "It captures all of the passion, history and absurdities that cyclists have in this 'city of bikerly love, and throughout the country."

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